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Thursday



President Obama questioned D.C.'s toughness.

Toughen Up: Obama ribs region's response to snow | **9**

Stimulus Passes: House OKs plan along party lines | **3**

Terrible Terps: Maryland has no answers for its woes | **12**

Weekend Pass

Rock World:

Eric Hilton talks about Thievery Corporation's global influences and why his band is good for the soul.



>> **INSIDE**

Early Voting Begins in Key Iraqi Elections



HEAD START: Iraqi police officers in Baghdad wait in line to vote early in provincial elections on Wednesday. Soldiers and police officers took to the polls early to ensure they will be available for a key security test when full voting begins this weekend. • **At stake:** Smooth vote may hasten U.S. withdrawal | **Page 8**

Postmaster: Cut Mail Delivery

Plan would limit service to 5 days per week to battle deficit

WASHINGTON | Massive deficits could force the U.S. Postal Service office to cut out one day of mail delivery, the postmaster general told Congress on Wednesday, in asking lawmakers to lift the requirement that the agency deliver mail six days a week.

If the change happens, that doesn't necessarily mean an end to Saturday mail delivery. Previous post office studies have looked at the possibility of skipping some other day

when mail flow is light, such as Tuesday.

Faced with dwindling mail volume and rising costs, the post office was \$2.8 billion in the red last year. "If current trends continue, we could experience a net loss of \$6 billion or more this fiscal year," Postmaster General John E. Potter said in testimony for a Senate subcommittee.

Total mail volume was 202 billion items last year, more than 9 billion less than the year

before, the largest drop in history.

And, despite annual rate increases, Potter said 2009 could be the first year since 1946 that the actual amount of money collected by the post office declines.

A study done by George Mason University last year for the independent Postal Regulatory Commission estimated that going from six-day to five-day delivery would save the post office more than \$1.9 billion annually, while a Postal Service study estimated the savings at \$3.5 billion. RANDOLPH E. SCHMID (AP)



WOULD IT BOTHER YOU IF THE POST OFFICE CUT
MAIL DELIVERIES TO FIVE DAYS A WEEK? **A** YES **B** NO

TO CAST YOUR VOTE, VISIT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM OR TEXT **A** FOR 'YES' OR **B** FOR 'NO' TO 98999. FOR WEDNESDAY'S POLL RESULTS, SEE PAGE 24



THURSDAY
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FRIDAY
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SATURDAY
33° 26°

TODAY: Partly sunny with a slight wind creating a harsh windchill | **26**

eyeOpeners

HAPPY EVENTS

Mom Reaches Her Due Date

There wasn't time to look up any books on obstetrics before a woman gave birth in the Denver Public Library. Library spokeswoman Celeste Jackson said the woman walked into the library Tuesday, and said she had been riding a city bus and was in labor. She gave birth just inside the library entrance. Staffers and security guards helped until paramedics arrived and took the mother and newborn girl to Denver Health Medical Center. Jackson said staffers didn't yet know their names, but they want to send flowers. "It's never happened before," she said. A hospital spokeswoman said the mother was in good condition. (AP)



CRIMES

Brotherly Love — Sans Bail Money

Authorities in Michigan say a 24-year-old man broke into a gas station and called 911 on himself, claiming he wanted to go to jail to be with his incarcerated brother. St. Clair County Sheriff

Tim Donnellon tells the Times Herald of Port Huron that deputies obliged, arresting the man early Tuesday. Authorities say the man called the emergency number at about 4:30 a.m. from inside the gas station in Capac, Mich., a village northeast of Detroit. He said he had broken in about 20 minutes earlier. (AP)



ANIMALS

Pelican Breed

The Netherlands' Rotterdam Zoo welcomed its first Dalmatian Pelican (or Kroeskoppelpelikaan, if you're Dutch) this week. Eventually, it will grow feathers and an enormous beak, but give it a break: It just came out of the egg. The Dalmatian pelican is extremely rare, and the species is considered "vulnerable" — one step up from endangered. (EXPRESS)

BABY NAMES

'Let's Call Him John'

Boys in the United States with common names like Michael and David are less likely to commit crimes than

those named Ernest or Ivan. A study at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania compared the first names of male juvenile delinquents to the first names of male juveniles in the population. While the names are likely not the

cause of crime, the researchers argue that "they are connected to factors that increase the tendency to commit crime, such as a disadvantaged home environment or households run by one parent." (AP)

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BAD SERVICE: Police in Palm Coast, Fla., say a restaurant owner pistol-whipped and beat a customer who complained that his calzone was prepared incorrectly. The owner of Goomba's Pizzeria was charged with aggravated assault and battery with a deadly weapon.

Nation

FDA: Plant Warned on Salmonella

Conn. lawmaker seeks investigation of factory implicated in outbreak

WASHINGTON | Roaches, mold and signs of a leaking roof were among numerous problems federal inspectors uncovered at a plant that kept shipping peanut butter even after it was found to contain salmonella.

A senior lawmaker quickly called for a criminal investigation of the plant, which has been implicated in the national salmonella outbreak.

Salmonella had been found previously at least 12 times in products made at the plant, but production lines were never cleaned up after tests indicated contamination, a government report said. Peanut Corp. of America's plant in Blakely, Ga., had 10 separate problem areas, Food and Drug Administration inspectors said in the report.

The company's actions "can only be described as reprehensible and criminal," said Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., who asked the Justice Department to investigate. (AP)



BY THE NUMBERS:
The Labor Department reported Wednesday that 21,137 mass layoffs took place last year, costing 2.1 million Americans their jobs. (AP)

House OKs Stimulus on Party Lines

\$819 billion recovery plan passes without a single Republican vote

WASHINGTON | In a swift victory for President Obama, the Democratic-controlled House approved a historically huge \$819 billion stimulus bill Wednesday night, filled with new spending and tax cuts at the core of the young administration's revival plan for the desperately ailing economy.

The vote was 244-188, with Republicans unanimous in opposition despite Obama's pleas for bipartisan support.

"We don't have a moment to spare," Obama declared at the White House as congressional allies hastened to do his bidding in the face of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

The vote sent the bill to the Senate, where debate is expected to begin as early as this week



Democrat. "But that is what we must do. That is what President Obama called us to do in his inaugural address."

Republicans said the bill was short on tax cuts and contained too much spending.

The party's House leader, Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, said the measure "won't create many jobs, but it will create plenty of programs and projects through slow-moving government spending."

On the final vote, the legislation drew overwhelming support among Democrats while all but a few Republicans opposed it.

The House vote marked merely the first of several major milestones for the legislation. Already a more bipartisan measure is taking shape in the Senate. Some Republicans have said they know they will have a second chance to support a bill when the final House-Senate compromise emerges in a few weeks.

DAVID ESPO (AP)

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said the passage of the stimulus bill heralds a new era in Washington. President Obama urged swift passage of the plan.

on a companion measure already taking shape. Democratic leaders have pledged to have legislation ready for Obama's signature by mid-February.

A mere eight days after Inauguration Day, Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Tuesday's events heralded a new era. "The ship of state is difficult to turn," said the California

GOP Blocks Delay of TV Transition

WASHINGTON | Bucking the Obama administration, House Republicans on Wednesday defeated a bill to delay the upcoming transition from analog to digital television broadcasting to June 12 — leaving an estimated 6.5 million U.S. households unprepared for the switchover.

The 258-168 vote failed to clear the two-thirds threshold needed for

passage in a victory for GOP members, who warn that postponing the transition from the Feb. 17 deadline would confuse consumers.

House Republicans say a delay also would burden wireless companies and public safety agencies waiting for the spectrum that will be freed up by the switch, and create costs for television stations that

would have to continue broadcasting both analog and digital signals for four more months.

The defeat is a setback for President Obama and Democrats on Capitol Hill, who maintain that the Bush administration bungled efforts to ensure that all consumers will be ready for next month's analog shutoff. (AP)

HEARSAY | SCIENCE

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Nation

Committee OKs Holder

Senate could vote Thursday to confirm attorney general pick

WASHINGTON | Senate Republicans, who acted like lions in challenging Eric Holder, turned into lambs Wednesday as they joined Democrats in recommending President Obama's choice for attorney general.

The Judiciary Committee voted 17-2 to endorse Holder, with two Republicans opposing the nomination — John Cornyn of Texas and Tom Coburn of Oklahoma. The Senate could vote as early as Thursday to confirm Holder as the first black to lead the Justice Department.

Lawmakers described Holder as experienced, independent, tough on crime and opposed to torture.



Eric Holder is President Obama's nominee to be the next U.S. attorney general.

Holder has served as a federal prosecutor, judge, U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia and deputy attorney general in Bill Clinton's presidency.

Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said Holder would be independent as attorney general. "Would he sit in the Oval Office and say, 'Mr. President, with all due respect you're wrong?' I think he would." (AP)

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OH, CANADA: Keeping with tradition, President Obama will make his first foreign trip in office to Canada Feb. 19, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs announced.

Nation



Trees bend under the weight of ice in Paragould, Ark., on Wednesday. Ice as thick as 3 inches was seen in parts of the state.

Ice, Snow Paralyze the NE

23 deaths are blamed on storm; more than 1M lose electricity

PHILADELPHIA | A destructive winter storm left more than a million customers in the dark before barreling into the Northeast on Wednesday, delaying flights and turning the morning rush into the morning slush as communities braced for the worst.

The storm has been blamed for at least 24 deaths and a glaze of ice and snow that caused widespread power failures from the Southern Plains to the East Coast. Authorities said it could be a week before



A squirrel munches on an ear of corn as snow falls in Moreland Hills, Ohio.

some communities have electricity again.

Tree limbs encased in ice tumbled onto roads and crashed onto power lines in hard-hit Arkansas, Kentucky and Oklahoma on Tuesday and overnight. In Arkansas — where ice was 3 inches thick in some places — people huddled next to portable heaters and wood-burning fires as utilities warned electricity may be out for a week or more.

Since the storm began building on Monday, the weather had been blamed for at least six deaths in Texas, four in Arkansas, three in Virginia, six in Missouri, two in Oklahoma, and one each in Indiana and Ohio. PATRICK WALTERS (AP)

Study: No Harm in Donating Kidney

Four decades of data show people who give organ live normal lives

NEW YORK | Donating a kidney doesn't appear to have any long-term health consequences for the donor, a reassuring study shows.

Researchers at the University of Minnesota found those who gave up one of their two kidneys lived a normal life span and were

KIDNEYS NEEDED

→ More than 78,000 people are on the national waiting list to receive a kidney. In 2007, more than a third of the 16,629 kidneys transplanted in the U.S. came from living donors, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing.

as healthy as people in the general population. The donation also didn't raise the risk of having kid-

ney failure later.

Kidney donation has generally been considered safe, although with surgery, there are always risks. The new research of nearly 3,700 donors dating back more than four decades is the largest and longest study to look at long-term outcomes, said the researchers.

"It is a confirmation that living donation is a safe thing," said Dr. Matthew Cooper, a surgeon at the University of Maryland. (AP)

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World

Iceland Names An Interim Leader

Openly gay former flight attendant has broad public support

REYKJAVIK, ICELAND | Iceland's next leader will be an openly gay former flight attendant who parlayed her experience as a union organizer into a decades-long political career.

Both parties forming Iceland's new coalition government support the appointment of Johanna Sigurdardottir, the island nation's 66-year-old social affairs minister, as Iceland's interim prime minister.

"Now we need a strong government that works with the people," Sigurdardottir told reporters Wednesday, adding that a new administration will likely be installed Saturday.

Sigurdardottir will lead until new elections are held, likely in May. But analysts say she's unlikely to remain in office, because her center-left Social Democratic Alliance isn't expected to rank among the major parties after the election.

Iceland's previous conservative-led government failed Monday after the country's banks collapsed last fall under the weight of debts amassed during years of rapid economic growth. Iceland's currency



Johanna Sigurdardottir was named Iceland's interim PM on Wednesday.

has plummeted, while inflation and unemployment are soaring.

While former Prime Minister Geir Haarde endured angry protests for months and had his limousine pelted with eggs, polling company Capacent Gallup said Sigurdardottir was Iceland's most popular politician in November, with an approval rating of 73 percent.

"It's a question of trust; people believe that she actually cares about people," said Olafur Hardarson, a political scientist at the University of Iceland. DAVID STRINGER (AP)

BRAZIL | GLOBAL GATHERING



ALTERNATIVE ACTIVISTS: Indigenous people dance during the World Social Forum in Belem, Brazil, Wednesday. Participants in the annual event are protesting the simultaneous World Economic Forum in Switzerland.

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The number of hits tallied per day by an Estonian Web site that shows live video of wild boars, Agence France-Presse reported.

Early Voting Begins in Iraq

Provincial elections could be test for Iraqi leaders, institutions

BAGHDAD | Soldiers, hospital patients and even prisoners filled ballot boxes Wednesday in special early voting for provincial elections that do not directly threaten the U.S.-allied government but could set up future showdowns for Iraq's leadership.

Also at stake is the reputation of Iraqi forces leading a massive anti-terrorism clampdown for Saturday's main voting.

A smooth election without significant violence could encourage supporters of a fast-paced withdrawal of U.S. combat troops by next year, but any major voting irregularities or bloodshed could raise worries about the readiness of Iraq's institutions.

There were reports of only sporadic attacks during the early voting — called to allow police and military



Iraqi soldiers show off their ink-stained fingertips after casting their votes in the country's provincial elections in the southern city of Najaf, Iraq, on Wednesday.

units to cast ballots before being deployed for the full-scale vote.

It also included prisons and many hospitals, including a maternity ward in Najaf where 21-year-old Salwa Majid filled out a ballot with one hand and cradled her hours-old son with the other.

"It's my duty to vote for a better

Iraq," she said, showing off her index finger tinted with purple ink — used in Iraq to identify voters.

In Kirkuk, hundreds of soldiers streamed into an elementary school to cast their ballots. "We have come here to vote as a kind of defiance to the terrorists," said Sgt. Abdul-Jabar Khalf. BRIAN MURPHY (AP)

Still Depressed?

If you (or someone you know) have been diagnosed with major depression, you may be able to participate in this research study designed to decrease symptoms and better understand causes of depression. This study tests whether a new medication that targets a system called glutamate, compared with placebo, will be effective in improving depression. This is a 10-week inpatient study, in Bethesda, MD. After completion of the study the participant is given short-term treatment and transitioned back to the community. In addition, all research participation is without cost.

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The amount, in millions of dollars, Maryland will pay to buy about 4,400 acres of land in Cecil, Charles and St. Mary's counties considered too valuable to pass up. The land includes about 20 miles of Potomac River waterfront, wildlife habitat and historic ties to Maryland's first colonial settlement.

Obama: D.C. Lacks Snow Toughness

President chides area for school closures due to icy road conditions

Do schools in the Washington area shut down at the drop of a snowflake or glint of an icicle?

That is the view of President Obama, who poked fun this morning at his daughters' school — Sidwell Friends — and others in the region for declaring a snow day. "Because of what?" he asked. "Some ice?"

Many suburban school systems

were closed Wednesday, and D.C. schools delayed opening because of Tuesday night's freezing rain, which coated cars and roads with a thick gloss of ice. Private schools, including Sidwell, tend to follow the lead of public schools in school delays or closures.

It's a common sentiment among parents from up North or out West — the Obamas, of course, just moved from Chicago — that schools in the Washington area close for weather that would barely register in the snow belt.

“When it comes to the weather, folks in Washington don’t seem to be able to handle things.”

PRESIDENT OBAMA

"We're going to have to apply some flinty Chicago toughness to this town," Obama said Wednesday morning. "I'm saying that when

it comes to the weather, folks in Washington don't seem to be able to handle things."

Ellis Turner, associate head of school at Sidwell, replied to the president's challenge in an e-mail to The Post. "No question, the president is right. The next time it snows, we would like to invite him to help us make the decision. His involvement will make it much easier to explain to our students why they won't be able to spend the day sleeping and sledding." DANIEL DE VISE AND MICHAEL BIRNBAUM (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Stimulus Could Double Local Transit Funding

Regional transportation officials said Wednesday that they expect a windfall from the proposed federal stimulus program that would essentially double this year's federal spending on roads and rails in the region.

Although state officials did not release detailed project lists, they estimated that Virginia could receive \$800 million, Maryland \$600 million to \$700 million, the District \$120 million and Metro \$275 million.

Because 25 percent of the federal dollars go to urban areas, officials expect the Washington region to do very well. The other 75 percent is distributed by the states.

"I'm optimistic," said Chris Zimmerman, chairman of the Metro board of directors and former head of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. He said the NVTA still has a list of \$100 million in "shovel-ready" transportation projects that would go a long way toward unclogging bottlenecks.

Any projects paid for with stimulus money would first have to go through the regional Council of Governments transportation planning board, where officials said at a meeting Wednesday that regional spending would focus on maintenance and rehabilitation as opposed to new projects such as the Purple Line.

ERIC M. WEISS (THE WASHINGTON POST)

WOODBRIDGE, VA. | ANNUAL HOMELESS COUNT



MARVIN JOSEPH/TWP

A PLACE TO LAY HIS HEAD: Jose Serannos lives in this campsite in Woodbridge, Va. The annual "point-in-time" attempt to count of all the homeless people in the region, including those in shelters and living in the woods, took place Wednesday, sponsored by the Metropolitan Council on Governments.

The Lotteries

Wednesday, Jan. 28

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Mid-day Lucky Numbers	3-4-1
Evening Lucky Numbers (Tues.)	5-4-9
Mid-day DC 4	6-1-8-1
Evening DC 4 (Tues.)	6-4-4-7
Rolling Cash Five (Tues.)	2-3-4-25-32
Daily 6 (Tues.)	18-20-22-25-28-36 Bonus: 39

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	1-1-0
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)	7-8-6
Mid-day Pick 4	0-8-0-0
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.)	4-1-0-0
Match 5 (Tues.)	12-18-28-30-34 Bonus: 21

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Wed.)	3-8-7
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)	3-4-0
Mid-day Pick 4 (Wed.)	9-5-4-9
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.)	6-1-6-4
Mid-day Cash 5 (Wed.)	2-8-9-17-28
Evening Cash 5 (Tues.)	8-9-10-32-34

MULTI-STATE GAMES

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Money



A customer holds a coffee drink in front of a Starbucks coffee shop on Monday in Seattle. The coffee chain said its profits fell 69 percent in the first fiscal quarter.

Starbucks to Shut 300 More Stores

Coffee chain to lay off thousands of workers after huge sales drop

NEW YORK | Starbucks Corp. announced a new round of store closures and layoffs as it reported Wednesday that its profit dropped 69 percent in its fiscal first quarter with sales continuing to slide.

The company plans to close 300 underperforming stores around the world by the end of the fiscal year in addition to the 600 it already planned to close in the U.S. The company has already closed 384 of those stores.

The additional closures could result in the loss of 6,000 in-store jobs. Starbucks also plans to lay off about 700 non-store employees.

The cuts and changes will result in about \$500 million in savings in fiscal 2009, the company said.

Edward Jones analyst Jack Russo said the cuts make sense given the decline in Starbucks' sales in recent quarters.

"This is going to be a transition year," Russo said. He said the company will have to "claw their way back."

Wall Street had largely expected Starbucks to report dismal performance for the quarter, because it had warned last month that slow sales likely would cause it to miss analysts' estimates.

The company said it plans to open only 140 new stores in the U.S. in fiscal 2009, down from its previous target of 200. Overseas, it will open 170, down from the 270 it had planned to open.

The company also said it will not provide any sales or earnings guidance "given the uncertainty in the global consumer retail environment." LAUREN SHEPHERD (AP)

Boeing to Slash About 10,000 Jobs

PITTSBURGH | Boeing Co., the world's second-largest airplane maker, swung to a surprise fourth-quarter loss, hurt by a labor strike that disrupted deliveries. It also announced job cuts totaling 10,000 and forecast lower-than-expected 2009 earnings.

The news comes on top of waning demand for the company's commercial jets. The planned job cuts will total more than 6 percent of Boeing's work force and will occur through attrition, retirements, reduction in some contract labor and layoffs. (AP)



HELPING HAND: Larry Fitzgerald would look at restructuring his contract if it would help keep fellow Arizona Cardinals wide receiver Anquan Boldin on the team. Boldin has sought a higher salary since the start of training camp.

Sports



Pittsburgh Steelers safety Troy Polamalu, left, and Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kurt Warner are their team's leaders. They are also two of the most vocal on the Super Bowl squads about their religious beliefs.

Faith at Forefront of the Super Bowl



Players openly discuss their religious beliefs ahead of the big game

SUPER BOWL | Arizona running back Tim Hightower had just finished a thoughtful explanation of his religious beliefs when one of the media types who found their way into the Super Bowl stadium Tuesday decid-

ed he needed more proof.

"Can you pray right now?" he asked.

"I can pray that whatever is going on in your life right now that you find God," Hightower said.

Hightower handled the question with the same ease he handled would-be tacklers to score the winning touchdown that got his team into the Super Bowl.

Even more surprising at this Super Bowl, though, is that so many players on both teams aren't hesitating to invoke the name of God as they prepare to play a violent game

in which there will be no mercy shown on either side.

The depth of convictions from evangelical Cardinals quarterback Kurt Warner to the Steelers who will do their best to plant him face-first into the ground on Sunday has put religion squarely in play this week.

"You just have to embrace it, whatever God does in your life and wherever he puts you," Warner said. "If it means being a role model in this game, I'm happy to do that."

Warner is the most vocal — and visible — Christian on the Cardi-

“You just have to embrace it, whatever God does in your life and wherever he puts you.”

KURT WARNER, CARDINALS QB

nals, proclaiming his faith at every opportunity and underscoring it by carrying a Bible with him almost everywhere he goes. He had it with

him at the postgame press conference after Arizona upset Philadelphia to reach the Super Bowl and took time to credit his faith in God for the win before answering any other questions.

The Steelers aren't as public about their religious beliefs, but many of them consider themselves devout Christians and can sometimes be seen in locker rooms or on airplanes reading their Bibles. Safety Troy Polamalu brings teammates to services at his Eastern Orthodox Christian church, and running back Willie Parker leaned on his faith to come back from injuries this season, praying that he would be 100 percent physically and able to produce. **TIM DAHLBERG (AP)**

Capitals Think Big Down the Stretch

Washington makes itself a Cup contender 50 games into season

CAPITALS | Last year the question was whether the Washington Capitals could even make the Stanley Cup playoffs. Heading into their 50th game of the season Saturday afternoon against the Stanley Cup champion Detroit Red Wings, the thought process has changed to when the team makes the playoffs,

how far can it go?

Sitting in second place in the Eastern Conference, the Capitals are in unusually rarified air, with few worries of dropping below third, thanks to a 12-point cushion atop the Southeast Division before Wednesday's action.

"Last year, we had to fight until the end to even get into the playoffs and this year, hopefully, it won't be the case," defenseman Mike Green said Wednesday. "We just can't get ahead of ourselves."

Looking ahead, though, there are some key areas coaches, players and fans will be tracking as the Capitals weather these last 33 games of the season.

→ **THE PENALTY KILL.** The Capitals have given up a power-play goal in nine straight games — including Tuesday night's loss to the Bruins — all while taking the fifth-most penalties in the NHL.

→ **GOALTENDING.** The situation seems to have stabilized, with Jose Theodore starting 14 of the past

16 games. He's 9-3-2 with a 2.35 goals-against average, but coach Bruce Boudreau won't commit to a No. 1 starter.

→ **TRADES.** Look for a move up as the March 4 trading deadline nears. Most NHL experts think the Caps could use another veteran defenseman to make a run at the Cup.

→ **INDIVIDUAL HONORS.** Alex Ovechkin and Boudreau are in contention to repeat as MVP and coach of the year, respectively. Ovechkin leads the league in goals and is second in points, while Boudreau has steered the Capitals from playoff newbie to cup contender. **MARK GIANNOTTO**

Ovechkin Rests After Taking Hit

CAPITALS | Alex Ovechkin was given Wednesday off, an excused absence from practice that Washington Capitals coach Bruce Boudreau said had nothing to do with the "stinger" the league's MVP got from a shoulder-first crash into the boards Tuesday in Boston.

"He's fine," Boudreau said. "I wanted to give him today off to rest. He's probably a little stiff. And I asked him how his shoulder was. He says he's OK, no problem." **(AP)**



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Sports

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The number of years of Bobby Bowden has coached Florida State's football team. The legendary coach agreed to one-year deal Wednesday to stay on for a 34th year.

No Defense for the Terps

Maryland coach can't figure out why team struggles in 2nd half

TERPS MEN'S HOOPS | Perhaps the Maryland Terrapins' biggest problem — and many have surfaced in recent weeks — is that games tend to last longer than 20 minutes.

After Tuesday's loss to Boston College, the Terrapins (13-7) have lost four of their six ACC games, and the optimism that appeared as the nonconference season neared an end is now gone.

Aside from last Saturday's historic 41-point loss to Duke, Maryland can blame its troubles squarely on that pesky second half. The other three conference losses came about only after the team surrendered double-digit leads.

The games' final 20 minutes have been brutal. Specifically, coach Gary Williams said, it's a lackluster defensive effort in the second half.

"If I knew — it wouldn't happen if I could find a way to fix it," he lamented. "The one thing defense always gives you is a way to stop the other team. If you're a good defensive team — and we are for 20



GARY WILLIAMS looks on in disbelief as the Terps lose to Boston College Tuesday.

minutes usually [but] the second half we don't play as good defense. I really wish I knew the answer to that, but I don't. We're going to work on it. It's one of those things that we have to find a way to make

that happen."

Against Boston College, the offense had to share the blame. Maryland shot 52.9 percent in the first half but only 29.7 percent in the second half.

Things don't get easier for the Terrapins. On Saturday, Maryland hosts Miami, a team that overcame a 17-point second-half deficit to beat the Terrapins in their first meeting, on Jan. 14.

Then comes a road game at No. 5 North Carolina.

In the meantime, fans are grumbling and Williams is on the defensive about recent recruiting difficulties. Players, meanwhile, are desperate to stop the slide.

"I'm a leader," junior Landon Milbourne said. "I'm a captain on this team. I have some pressure.... I'm just trying to do my part. I'm not trying to do anything spectacular. I know what I can contribute to the team, and I'm trying to do that." DEREK TURNER

“It wouldn’t happen if I could find a way to fix it. The one thing defense always gives you is a way to stop the other team.”

GARY WILLIAMS, TERPS COACH

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Sports



JOHN MCDONNELL/TWP

Marcelo Gallardo came to D.C. with the promise of being the team's next great playmaker. He's about to leave one year later, after battling injuries last season.

Gallardo on Way Back to Argentina

World Cup veteran set to leave United after disappointing season

UNITED | D.C. United midfielder Marcelo Gallardo, an Argentine World Cup veteran who joined the club amid considerable fanfare last year, appears to be headed back to his homeland after one disappointing, injury-riddled season in Washington.

Gallardo, 33, is United's highest-paid player ever at \$1.9 million, started just 14 MLS games in 2008, scored four goals and missed the season's key portions with groin and knee problems.

Reports surfaced in Argentina this week that the midfielder was being pursued by both Estudiantes de La Plata and River Plate. On Wednesday,

a River executive told the daily sports paper Olé that the Buenos Aires club, where Gallardo spent 10 years and won six major titles, agreed to a one-year loan with D.C. that effectively will end his MLS career.

D.C. did not confirm the report, but GM Dave Kasper said the team has "spoken with Marcelo at length about his desire to continue his career in Argentina and expects resolution of the issue in the coming days."

Meanwhile, United's 30-game MLS schedule was released Wednesday and features a March 22 opener at Los Angeles followed by home games against league powers Chicago (March 28) and Houston (April 4). D.C. will play each team twice, including the expansion Seattle Sounders, along with two extra intraconference games (Chicago and Kansas City). **BRIAN STRAUS**

TODAY'S TV LINEUP

HOKIES HOOPS (7 P.M. ON ESPN2) Can Virginia Tech stay on its winning streak and atop the Atlantic 11 poll with a win over No. 12 Clemson?

MORE MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS (7 AND 9 P.M. ON ESPN; 9 AND 11 P.M. ON ESPN2; 10:30 P.M. ON FSN) No. 9 Michigan State takes on Iowa; Alabama begins life with a new coach against Arkansas; Big East foes Rutgers and Seton Hall play;

No. 20 Gonzaga hosts No. 22 St. Mary's (Calif.); No. 17 UCLA faces California.

NBA (8:15 AND 10:30 P.M. ON TNT) Eastern Conference heavyweights play when the Orlando Magic hosts the Cleveland Cavaliers; and the Phoenix Suns host the San Antonio Spurs.

TENNIS (3:30 A.M. FRIDAY ON ESPN2) Andy Roddick plays Roger Federer in the Australian Open semifinals.

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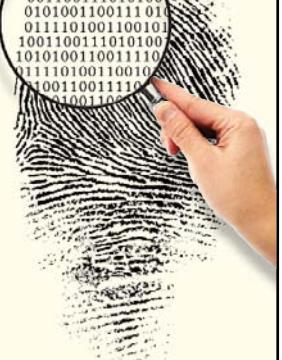
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Sports



BACK IN STYLE: With a well-rounded game and a build to match, Colin Montgomerie was the face of European golf in his prime. He is again, after being named Europe's Ryder Cup captain Wednesday.

Williams' Semisweet Win

No. 2 seed proceeds after air-conditioning kicks in Down Under

TENNIS | Serena Williams was having what she called an "out-of-body experience" Wednesday in brutal heat at the Australian Open.

Closing the Rod Laver Arena roof and cranking up the air-conditioning helped the defending champion pull herself together and advance to the semifinals — but left her opponent steaming.

"I felt I was watching someone play in a blue dress, and it wasn't me, because it was so hot out there," said the second-ranked American, who beat Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova 5-7, 7-5, 6-1. "And I kept trying to tell myself that it's not hot. But it got hotter."

Williams, seeking her fourth Australian title and 10th Grand Slam championship overall, next faces Olympic gold medalist Elena Dementieva. The fourth-seeded Dementieva ousted Carla Suarez



MARK DADSWELL/GETTY IMAGES
Serena Williams reacts to winning a point in Wednesday's match against Svetlana Kuznetsova. The No. 2 seed advanced to the semifinals after a grueling match.

Navarro 6-2, 6-2 to run her winning streak to 15 matches.

Top-ranked Rafael Nadal won his fifth match without dropping a set by beating Gilles Simon 6-2, 7-5, 7-5, though he was strongly tested by the sixth-seeded Frenchman. Simon broke his serve three

times and had a set point with the Spaniard serving at 4-5 in the second set.

But Nadal was up to the task, ripping several winners on the run that were never inside the court until they landed and skipped away untouched. (AP)

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EDIE DOES IT: Quirky Austrian businessman Richard Lugner, 76, says he's taking "Desperate Housewives" star Nicollette Sheridan to Vienna's flashy Opera Ball on Feb 19. Last year, the real estate mogul invited Dita von Tease. (AP)

Television

ON TV TONIGHT

CLIPS IN THE KEY OF SAD

Auditions continue on **AMERICAN IDOL** (8 p.m., Fox).

GIRL, INTERRUPTED

Lana's absence becomes apparent on **SMALLVILLE** (8 p.m., CW).

MASHED YEAST

A relationship between neurotics in New York City blooms and fades in flashback style in Woody Allen's 1977 comic masterpiece **ANNIE HALL** (8 p.m., Eastern, TCM).

BACKSTABBERS

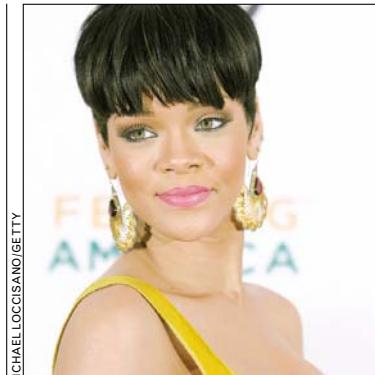
An undercover agent is slain brutally on **CSI** (9 p.m., CBS).

NEEDS SALT

Gordon Ramsay hosts 13 aspiring chefs on a new season of **HELL'S KITCHEN** (9 p.m., Fox).

BEFORE THE COIN TOSS

Jerry O'Connell hosts **SUPER BOWL BASH** (9 p.m., VH1), featuring NFL stars and performances by Rihanna, Fall Out Boy and Lifehouse.



MICHAEL LOCISANO/GAT

HER GAME FACE Rihanna leads a musical salute to the NFL tonight on VHI.

SACKED

A high school football star becomes a target on **BURN NOTICE** (10 p.m., USA).

COMEDIANS CONVERGE

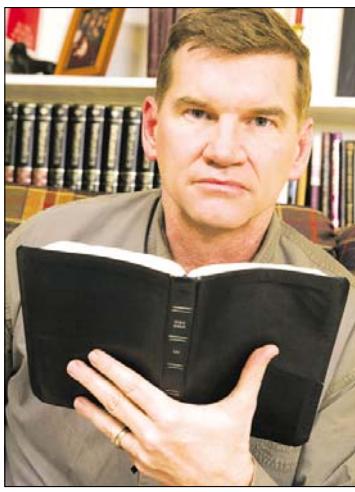
Talk show host Jon Stewart appears on **LATE NIGHT WITH CONAN O'BRIEN** (12:35 a.m., NBC). KEVIN McDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURES SYNDICATE)

Caught: A Fall From Grace

An HBO documentary offers a sketch of a disgraced preacher

PULPIT | "The Trials of Ted Haggard" (8 p.m., HBO) will surprise you. Filmmaker Alexandra Pelosi has a way of asking viewers to look at her subjects in a different light. Her 2002 documentary "Journeys With George" offered an irreverent look at the 2000 campaign of then-Gov. George W. Bush. Pelosi has gone on to make "Friends of God," a film about religion and politics, and she is preparing a documentary about contemporary conservatives.

During the making of "Friends," she struck up a relationship with minister Ted Haggard, then leader of the National Association of Evangelicals, an organization that



FIRED AND BRIMSTONE: Ted Haggard is the subject of an HBO documentary.

claimed up to 30 million members. He was a force to be reckoned with in Republican politics.

Much has changed since then.

After Haggard admitted to a liaison with a masseur and to buying drugs, he was expelled from his Colorado congregation under a harsh severance agreement with the New Life Church that banished him from the pulpit and from his home state of Colorado. "Trials" follows the Haggard family as they rebuild their lives in Arizona, decamping from one loaned home to another, then moving into a succession of ever-cheaper hotels and motels as Haggard faces a daily diet of humiliation.

"Trials" is the best of Pelosi's short films, a movie that doesn't so much judge Haggard as contemplate the very nature of exile. It leaves you wishing Pelosi was around to provoke and prod Richard Nixon in the late 1970s. KEVIN McDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURES SYNDICATE)

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Entertainment



THRILL THE WORLD: Michael Jackson's 1980s "Thriller" video is set to become a Broadway musical. The Nederlander organization is enlisting Jackson's help in creating a musical based on his songs from the albums "Thriller" and "Off the Wall."



BLUE-COLLAR PATRIOTISM: Bruce Springsteen performs at the "We Are One" concert at the Lincoln Memorial on Jan. 18.

Boss Is at a Loss

Bruce's new album recalls his greatness but can't match it

ALBUM | Bruce Springsteen is the quintessential album-era rock star. Hear me out, ye who would argue Beatles-Dylan-Marvin-Brian Wilson-Who-Pink Floyd-Stones: Those artists might have made superior individual efforts, but none has used the long-player

form itself more powerfully over the arc of a career.

A string of hit singles alone wouldn't have made Springsteen the bard of America's slide from industrial-era swagger into service-economy anomie. He needed the track-by-track architecture of albums to flesh out characters, relate each to the other, extend metaphors and build a palpable, detail-strewn landscape through which they could travel.

The album format also has allowed Springsteen to build a sound, both with his stalwart E Street Band and in more minimalist projects. But the album era is over. "Working on a Dream," Springsteen's 16th studio album, is not merely a response to this fact. It's partial proof.

"Working on a Dream" rejects the finer points of literary-minded album rock and aims for the instant effect of a string of hits.

It's a charmingly quixotic move; barely anyone has hits in these dark days of the music industry, especially rockers over the age of, well, how old are the Jonas Brothers? So, give Springsteen credit for even trying.

But the enthusiasm he and his team bring to these tracks doesn't redeem them. The best thing that can be said about "Working on a Dream" is that it's boisterously scatterbrained, an exhilarating but minor work.

Only a great artist could make an album that's at once so stirring and so slight. This is the Boss, after all; he can wring meaning out of a dish towel. And he's obviously enjoying himself, recalling the radio hits of his youth. But he gets lost in the idea of pop, forgetting to attend to the little details that pump blood into his best work.

It's "The Wrestler," the bonus track that won a Golden Globe for its appearance in the film of the same name, that most clearly realizes Springsteen's undying gift. Tacked on to this shiny package, the song is ancient-school Springsteen: a terse ballad about a loser, simply arranged, that gently builds into a secular hymn.

It's the kind of song that says more than its words convey because the listener knows it's part of something bigger. Somewhere, the story continues. That's how folk ballads work.

Springsteen might be bored of being their champion, but nobody serves them better than he. **ANN POWERS (LOS ANGELES TIMES)**

Getting Too Gross for Comfort

Charlie Houston's newest mystery is skillful and macabre

CLEANUP | There are mysteries that are not for the faint of heart. Charlie Houston's latest is not for the faint of stomach.

"The Mystic Arts of Erasing all Signs of Death" is the grittiest — and funniest — of mysteries. Firmly in the pulp tradition, darkness and danger are always threatening Web

Goodhue, the book's hero.

Web, once a dedicated elementary school teacher, has become an unemployed slacker because of a tragedy that befell him teaching.

Then a man named Po Sin comes to Web's rescue with a job for a guy who has a strong stomach with his company, Clean Team.

Clean Team is a different kind of cleaning service: It removes the mess left behind by death — murder, suicide or just natural causes that go undiscovered for a while. The blood



EW, GROSS: "The Mystic Arts" is gruesome, but author Houston pulls it off.

and bone are part of a day's work.

Web, who initially thinks he will ditch the job, discovers he actually finds the work satisfying, despite the macabre nature of the business. Web meets the woman of his dreams, Soledad, while cleaning up after her father's bizarre suicide.

Fast-paced and at times screamingly funny, "The Mystic Arts" won't be to everyone's taste, but for those who like black humor and offbeat stories, it's top-rate. **MARY FOSTER (AP)**



MICHAEL BUCKNER/GETTY IMAGES
The Bird and the Bee's Inara George sings at the Coachella music fest in '08.

Go Back To the Future'

Bird and the Bee shows its versatility with a new record

ALBUM | The Bird and the Bee, the project of singer Inara George and producer Greg Kurstin, makes exquisite dinner party music. That's not a slight — like any other subgenre, it has its good and its bad, its watered-down bubbly and its liquid gold. And the Bird and the Bee's second album, "Ray Guns Are Not Just the Future," is on the liquid gold side.

Building crisp pop imbibements that can stand up to several listens is no easy task, but the Bird and the Bee has found the trick: complex melodies constructed of several simple, shiny parts, all revolving around George's breathy voice, the calling card of a nocturnal party sprite who sounds as though she might be cooing her songs at a flirty soiree.

But she's also not afraid to command the center: "Polite Dance Song" is a showcase for Kurstin and George's sly wit. She can also be adorably kooky: In "Diamond Dave," a perfumed mash note for David Lee Roth, she pledges her undying love for the king of the unitard. **MARGARET WAPPLER (LOS ANGELES TIMES)**

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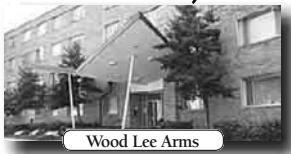
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LOOK out

* TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

Animals

Tasmanian scientists mull ways to save an endangered species

Tasmania is trying to save the devil.

The Tasmanian devil, a ferocious, snarling, fox-sized marsupial, is in danger of going extinct because of a contagious facial cancer. In the meantime, its biggest rival — the European fox — is thriving and may become so dominant that the devil never comes back.

Scientists now want to build a double fence standing more than 3 feet tall to stop the cancer's relentless spread toward the rugged northwest of the island, home to disease-free devils and World Heritage-listed rain forest. Devils spread the cancer when they bite each other during mating or squabble over food.

The island of Tasmania is the only natural home for the world's largest marsupial carnivore.

But for any chance of success, the fences would have to be completed within two years, said Hamish McCallum, the senior scientist in the devil rescue program. He predicts the devil will go extinct in the wild within 20 years.

The Australian island state of Tasmania is the only natural home for the world's largest marsupial carnivore, made notorious by its Looney Tunes cartoon namesake Taz. Its Latin name is *Sarcophilus harrisii*, or "Harris' meat lover,"

after the scientist who first studied devils.

Scientists had hoped to find a genetic solution to the disease through Cedric, a young devil who showed signs of natural immunity in laboratory tests. But last month Cedric contracted a second, mutated strain of the cancer.

Warner Bros., which owns Taz, and CNN founder Ted Turner, who started the Cartoon Network, are helping the Australian and Tasmanian governments bankroll the fight against the disease.

In the past three years, Australian zoos have bred 170 devils as "insurance populations." Plans to establish a wild colony on uninhabited Maria Island off Tasmania are

controversial because of fears that devils could endanger rare birds and beetles.

The Tasmanian government says it is considering offshore islands and fenced areas up to 12 miles long, but its first priority is the populations in mainland zoos.

McCallum, professor of wildlife research at the University of Tasmania, said the only fence precedent he knew of was in South Africa, where the Kruger National Park was fenced on its southern and western borders in 1961 to prevent foot-and-mouth disease from spreading from wildlife to cattle. The Tasmanian fence would be built in selective areas, such as some corners or a peninsula.

"This isn't going to be a huge barrier like the Berlin Wall across all of Tasmania," McCallum said.

Government wildlife biologist Nick Moonie noted that fences would also trap other animals such as wallabies and echidnas, some of which may need to move or migrate. Moonie, who advises both the devil

INSIDE

Jon Bon Jovi sued for back payments | 26



Blog Log: Is weather a reason to skip work? | 24

Discussions: Advice from a veterinarian | 24

PHOTOS BY MARK BAKER/AP



AT RISK: Tasmanian devils search for food at a zoo in Australia. The devil population is dwindling as its rivals are thriving.

Devil's Salvation



A contagious cancer is putting the Tasmanian devil in danger of becoming extinct.

rescue and fox eradication programs, suspects cancer won't wipe out devils, but foxes just might.

Scientists say it is no coincidence that devil numbers have halved in the same decade that foxes have finally gained a foothold in Tasmania, with potentially disastrous consequences for the island's unique wildlife.

Devils and foxes are the top predators in Tasmania. But until now, foxes have faced tens of thousands of devils competing for food and devouring their litters.

Foxes and rabbits were first brought to Australia about 200 years ago by British settlers. Since then, 25 mammal species have become extinct, giving Australia the world's worst extinction record, according to the Tasmanian government.

A \$3.3 million-per-year program is under way to poison an estimated 150 foxes. Tony Peacock, chief executive of Canberra University's Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Center, said eradicating foxes is a question of will.

"We, in Australia, are the best in the world at driving animals to extinction," he said. "It's just in the past that we haven't wanted to."

ROD MCGUIRK (AP)

LOOK out Online

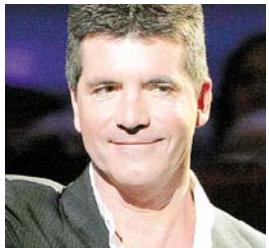
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MUSIC

Mic Open

Singer-songwriter Justin Trawick longed to leave his 9-to-5 gig behind and focus on his art. Then he was laid off. But rather than sulk, the Dave Matthews-esque artist became a frequent performer and host of this area's open-mic nights. Tim Follos spoke to Trawick about his new "profession." | ONLINE NOW



TELEVISION

You Watch, We Blog

If you've been falling behind on "Top Chef," "24" or "American Idol"—or are just looking for someplace to vent—our bloggers are your salve. Visit Karmah Elmusa's "Hail to the Chef," Matt Swenson's "Bauer by Hour" and Greg Barber's "Idol Chatter" for insights, japes and rants. | ONLINE NOW

BOOKS

Tehran Diaries

In "Reading Lolita in Tehran," author Azar Nafisi reminisced on life and literature in revolutionary Iran in the late 1990s. Her new book, "Things I've Been Silent About," is another memoir, but it doesn't mirror 'Tehran.' Katherine Silktaitis spoke to Nafisi about her latest work. | ONLINE NOW

poll center

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AS OF 5 P.M.

DO YOU THINK WASHINGTONIANS WILL EVER LEARN NOT TO FREAK OUT WHEN IT SNOWS?

NO 95%

YES 5%



"It'll never happen. D.C. just doesn't get snow often enough. Back in Colorado, if it snows under a foot or so, it's 'flurries.' Here, if it snows at least 2 inches, it's a snowstorm! I love it."

COMMENTER LET IT SNOW, RESPONDING TO WEDNESDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "DO YOU THINK WASHINGTONIANS WILL EVER LEARN NOT TO FREAK OUT WHEN IT SNOWS?"

66 The more important question in this walking city is, 'When will the city prioritize clearing sidewalks to the same extent they prioritize clearing roads?'"

COMMENTER MIFFED PEDESTRIAN, WHO ADDED, "I COULDN'T GET TO MY BUS STOP THIS MORNING WITHOUT SLIPPING [ON] THE ICE."

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM/POLLCENTER

Blog LOG

"I don't want my husband feeling like I view him as some broken baby-making machine. I don't regret marrying him."

SINGLIKESASSY.BLOGSPOT.COM WAS UPSET WHEN HER HUSBAND ASKED HER WHETHER SHE WISHES SHE HAD MARRIED SOMEONE ELSE, DUE TO HIS INFERTILITY ISSUES.



CHARLES DHOARAPAK/AP

"That's right: Our new president considers capital-dwellers a bunch of [wimps] who can't deal with a little dusting of snow."

WASHINGTONCITYPAPER.COM/BLOGS/CITYDESK REFERS TO OBAMA'S COMMENT ABOUT WASHINGTONIANS' ABILITY TO DEAL WITH SNOW AFTER HIS KIDS' SCHOOL HAD TWO SNOW DAYS IN A ROW.



"It annoys me when people shirk their job responsibilities due to the weather. Sure, I understand not wanting to come in. But when these people took these jobs, they pledged to get to the office when they were needed there."

COMPLAINTHUB.COM IS OFFENDED BY PEOPLE WHO BLAME WEATHER FOR THEIR LACK OF PRODUCTIVITY, ADDING, "YOU CAN CHOOSE TO LIVE FAR AWAY IF YOU WANT, BUT DON'T USE IT AS AN EXCUSE."

"NORMALLY, I COULDN'T care less what PETA has to say about anything. But when it uses hot models to get its message across, I pay attention. I suddenly want a salad."

VABURBIA.COM WAS IMPRESSED BY PETA'S LATEST TV AD, WHICH NBC HAS DEEMED TOO SEXY FOR THE SUPER BOWL.

ins and other harmful chemicals. Nordic Naturals and Old Grizzly wild Alaska salmon oil are good for people and pets alike. You may be able to order online. It's cheaper not to buy in capsules.

What do you think about electronic fences? For some reason, I do not like my dog's fearing something he cannot see.

Some people swear by them; others swear at them. Strong-willed dogs will go right through them. Timid dogs may become phobic. They do not stop free-roaming dogs outside from coming in. They are not fail-safe.

My 1-year-old neutered male lab mix has recently started lifting one leg when he urinates. He does this on walks; in the yard he keeps both back legs down. Is this behavior that should be discouraged? If so, how

can that message be conveyed? Once I told him "no" and pushed down his back leg, but I don't want him to think he can't urinate.

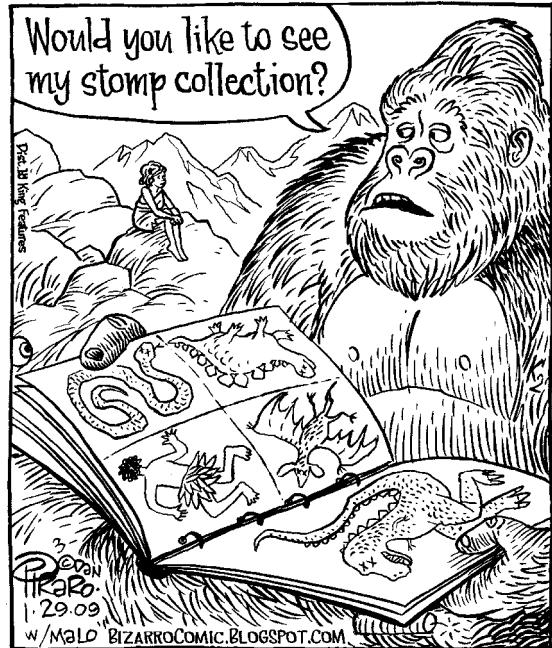
Good dog! Cocking one leg is what male dogs do to urinate and mark. I do not advise trying to inhibit this normal male behavior — you will crush his ego!

I have a cat. Every day before leaving home, I turn my heat down to 59 or 60 degrees. Is there some level that is too low for the health and comfort of the cat? What would that be?

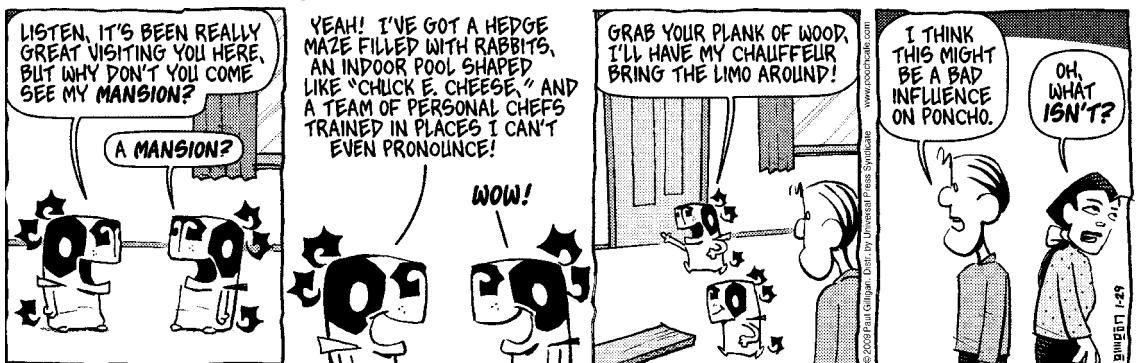
Get your cat a small, safe infrared heat lamp or warm pad to lie on. Old cats especially need warmth, optimally around 70 degrees.

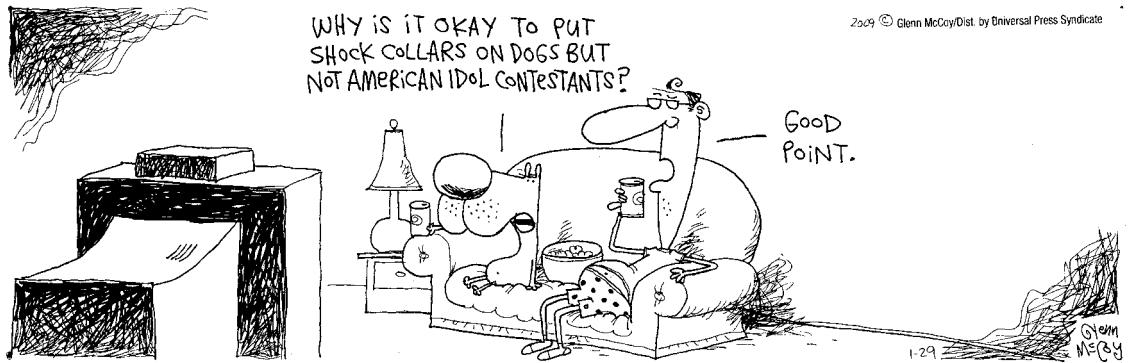
TODAY ON DISCUSSIONS: The Going Out Guide experts share their best bets for local flavor, great dates and family fun at 1 p.m. | washingtonpost.com/discussions

LOOK out

Bizarro | Dan Piraro

Cornered | Mike Baldwin


"All our vehicles come with a 24-hour, round-the-block guarantee."

Pooch Cafe | Paul Gilligan

Pearls Before Swine | Stephan Pastis

The Duplex | Glenn McCoy


Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You run the risk of achieving less than planned if you do not get an early start and approach tasks with full efficiency.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Someone is looking after you, but there are still dangers to be avoided. Ultimately, it's up to you to steer clear of obstacles.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You're likely to be surprised by something that others have only recently told you couldn't happen. Remember, never say never.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Resist the temptation to do things the easy way or to take shortcuts that may actually cross the line.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You can please those around you even as you tend to your needs. You may seem to have more up your sleeve than expected.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It's important for you to behave in a fair-and-square manner, no matter what you are trying

to accomplish. Don't tempt fate.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may be quite emotional throughout much of the day, so you may want to steer clear of those situations that demand mostly rational thought.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You may have to go far out of your way simply to get back to where you started. It's a journey, however, that can provide valuable lessons.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) One or more people may express an interest in accompanying you. There is a benefit, surely, in having company at this time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Now is not the time to switch sides. You'll want to remain loyal and stay the course, braving what comes with unity and fellowship.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Do you have the right tools to do the job you've been assigned? It may be time to take stock — literally and figuratively.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You are begging to be taken seriously, but right now you are more likely to be recognized — and rewarded — for your unusual humor.

Letters

March Coverage Insufficient

THANKS FOR not including a March for Life story in Friday's Express; it only drew hundreds of thousands to the Mall. It was covered with just a caption and photo. The world's largest dumpling (EyeOpeners, Jan. 21)

received more attention than this conservative event. I can still rely on papers not to keep me informed.

—VICTORIA WALLACE
Silver Spring, Md.

Correction:

In the Express Wedding Guide, Nicole Wolf was misidentified as the photographer of Justine Ungaro's wedding, which Greg Gibson shot. Wolf shot the day-after photos.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

Today in History

1845 Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven" is first published, in the New York Evening Mirror.

1919 The ratification of the 18th Amendment, which launched Prohibition, is certified by Acting Secretary of State Frank L. Polk.

1929 The Seeing Eye, a New Jersey-based school that trains guide dogs to assist the blind, is incorporated by Dorothy Harrison Eustis and Morris Frank.

1963 The first members of pro football's Hall of Fame are named in Canton, Ohio.



Emily Lyons is removed from the clinic.

1998 A bomb rocks an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Ala., killing security guard Robert Sanderson and critically injuring Emily Lyons, a nurse.

LOOK out

People



AP/THIBAULT CAMUS

Rowland and her manager have split.

SOLO

20-Something to Pay Her Own Bills, Bills, Bills

Former Destiny's Child star **KELLY ROWLAND** says she will always be a part of Beyoncé's family, but she'll no longer be managed by the superstar's father. Rowland and Matthew Knowles said Wednesday that he is bowing out as her manager. (AP)

BEAUTY

Area Schools' 'Smile with Your Eyes' Program a Hit

"America's Next Top Model" has announced the names of the 13 girls in "Cycle 12" of the CW reality show. Among the 13 young women are Sandra from Rockville and Isabella from Barboursville, Va. (EXPRESS)

expressnightout

→ Find the latest celebrity news and photo evidence of stars' sordid lives at WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM.



AP/MIKE DERER

FOOTBALL

Soul Provider Sued

The former sales manager for the Philadelphia Soul arena football team is suing club owner **JON BON JOVI** and his partners for nearly \$125,000 he says he's owed. Joseph Krause alleges that rock singer Bon Jovi and other team officials told employees they would receive only two weeks of severance pay. The Arena Football League is canceling the 2009 season. (AP)

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area



Partly sunny



Partly cloudy



Partly sunny



Breezy in the morning; sunny, cold



Sunshine and milder



A chance for rain and snow

40°

27°

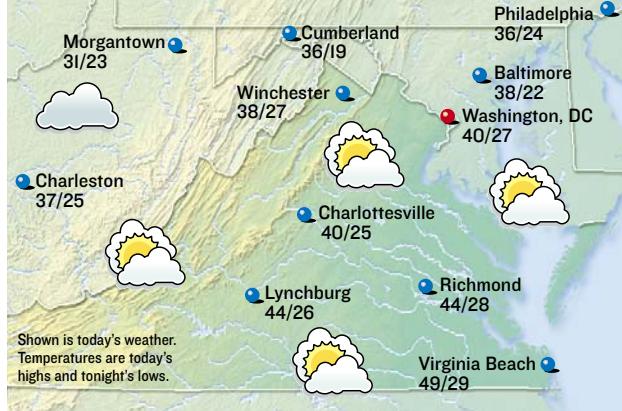
41° / 25°

33° / 26°

48° / 32°

44° / 30°

Regional Weather



Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Wed.

Temperature

High 36°
Low 30°
Normal high 43°
Normal low 27°
Average humidity 93%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m. 0.47"
Month to date 2.65"
Normal month to date 2.91"
Year to date 2.65"
Last year to date 1.31"
Normal year to date 2.91"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

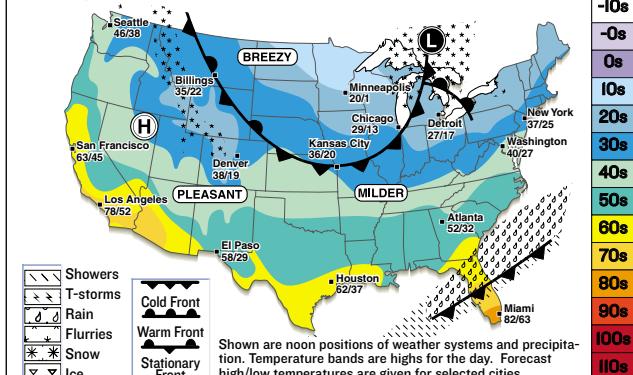
D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny. High 40. Wind northwest 6-12 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 27. Wind light and variable.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today 7:17 a.m.
Sunset tonight 5:26 p.m.
Moonrise today 8:46 a.m.
Moonset today 9:00 p.m.

First Feb 2 Full Feb 9 Last Feb 16 New Feb 24

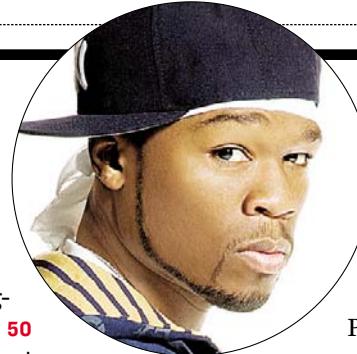
National Weather for Thursday, January 29



National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	52/32/pc	47/27/s	Amsterdam	41/30/pc	41/31/pc
Boston	38/21/pc	31/20/pc	Athens	57/52/pc	55/46/sh
Chicago	29/13/sn	20/12/pc	Berlin	37/28/s	37/28/c
Dallas	54/34/s	64/35/s	Buenos Aires	84/70/t	86/70/s
Denver	38/19/pc	53/26/s	Calgary	46/21/c	46/25/c
Honolulu	80/68/s	81/68/s	Dublin	46/41/r	48/41/pc
Los Angeles	78/52/s	80/52/s	Geneva	41/26/s	49/28/s
Miami	82/63/s	73/46/t	Moscow	34/25/sn	28/14/sn
New York City	37/25/pc	36/22/st	Rome	52/37/s	50/36/s
Orlando	74/50/t	56/35/pc	Sydney	82/66/s	84/66/s
Seattle	46/38/pc	48/37/c	Tokyo	54/46/r	55/47/r

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.



Madoff didn't get the memo about upsetting Fiddy.

scheme in American financial history. The New York Post reports Lighty wouldn't confirm the amount of his loss — rumored to be \$50 million — and shrugged off reporters, saying, "Nothing to talk about. It's not life-threatening." (EXPRESS)



of Ken Sunshine's, a public relations bigwig. Sunshine, once chief of staff to David Dinkins during his mayorship of N.Y.C., now represents clients including Leonardo DiCaprio. (EXPRESS)



Olbermann likes the cut of his own jib.

CROSSWORD | SAY WHAT?

ACROSS

1 "Fahrenheit 9/11"	59 Latter-day accts.?
target	61 "The ____ Limits"
5 Caught on camera	62 Feminizing suffix
10 Yards on the	63 Dash gauge
ground, e.g.	64 Actor Milo of
14 Builder at Cuzco	"Barbarella"
15 "Six ____, half a	65 Voyeur
dozen"	66 Bambino
16 Topology figures	67 Col. Potter of
17 Bridge distance	"M*A*S*H," to pals
18 Setting for "Hansel	68 They're dubbed
and Gretel"	
19 Donkey features	DOWN
20 Guidelines for a	1 Casual eatery
politician	2 Pro bono
23 Frees from	3 Almost boils
24 One way, on a	4 "Cast Away" star
swing	5 Village inhabitants
25 Dope on a horse	6 In ____ (befuddled)
28 "____ bodkins!"	7 Palindromic ship
29 Noted matchmaker	deck
32 Aggregate	8 Words with "an era"
34 First name in	or "the line"
women's tennis	9 It may be burning
36 Estate beneficiary	10 "Never mind"
37 Moneymakers for	notation
ex-presidents	11 Warmer
41 W rival	12 Abbr. at JFK
42 They make for a	13 "Deck the Halls"
neat walk	contraction
43 Place to put some	21 Asia Minor region
leaves	22 Alternative to
46 Spanish vacation	smoking
site, perhaps	26 The blue of a baby
47 Drink with an	blue
extended pinkie	27 "Capita" go-with
50 Dreyer's partner in	30 What George
ice cream	couldn't tell
51 U.K. defense arm	31 One official
53 Barcelona bull	language of India

SUDOKU | HARD

Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. See www.sudoku.com for solution, tips and computer program.

Need more Su|do|ku?
Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

Yesterday's Solution

9	6	5	2	7	4	8	3	1
1	7	2	8	9	3	4	5	6
8	3	4	1	6	5	2	7	9
2	5	3	7	1	8	6	9	4
4	1	6	9	3	2	5	8	7
7	9	8	5	4	6	3	1	2
5	2	9	6	8	7	1	4	3
6	4	7	3	5	1	9	2	8
3	8	1	4	2	9	7	6	5

© PUZZLES BY PAPPO.COM

		5		3
2	9		6	
7		1		4
8		6	9	2
5			4	
9	4	8	1	
1		9	5	
3		1		9
5	8			

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[on the] spot

* NAME: Carl Hiaasen
GIG: Former Miami Herald columnist, Florida-centric novelist

HIAASEN IS BEST known for his rollicking, Florida-set, eco-furious thrillers, but he's also a successful children's author, winning a Newbery Honor for 2002's "Hoot." He's back with his third book for young readers, "Scat," a, well, rollicking tale that touches on the vanishing Sunshine State panthers, oil-drilling and the Iraq war.

Why did you start writing for kids?
It wasn't my idea. Several years ago, an editor contacted me and asked if I would like to do kids' books. I laughed and said, "You haven't read my grown-up books; you wouldn't want to put the children of America at risk."

But my stepson was 11 and nieces and nephews were the same age — too young to read adult novels but

clamoring to. I thought maybe you can have a book with the same irreverence as my other novels that they could love, but not worry about content. That's why I wrote "Hoot."

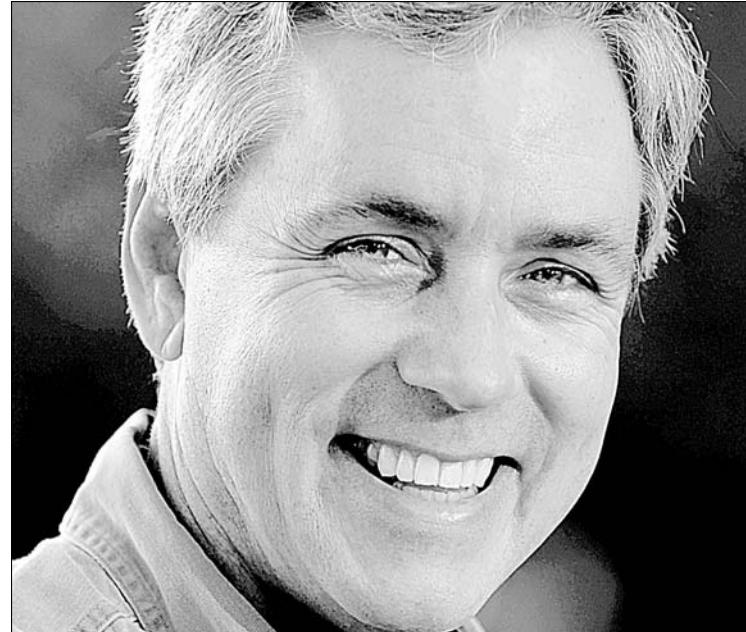
How was making the transition?

I wanted to tell stories in the only voice I know — my own. It became a question of taking myself back to when I was 12 and putting myself in that frame of mind.

The nice thing about having the characters be kids is that they come to the story with so much less baggage than grown-ups. I don't have to spend a lot of time on the backstory explaining as much about an eighth-grader as a 60-year-old guy who lives in the swamp and eats roadkill.

What about Florida is inspiring?

It's the only place I've ever lived, so I'm not qualified to write about anywhere else. It's a place where mate-



TIM CHAPMAN

Hiaasen's wild-ride novels for kids and adults career through the state of Florida.

rial never runs dry — not a day goes by that a news story doesn't fit somewhere in a novel. The sheer volume coming out of Florida is a blessing for a journalist and novelist.

What prompted including your eco-friendly point of view in this story?

That's what my other two books for kids are, so it's nothing new. The degradation of the planet as seen in

Florida is dramatic. In "Scat," you have a magnificent creature in the Florida panther, and there are not many left. I grew up on the edge of the Everglades, and it would have been the highlight of my childhood to lay eyes on one.

You include another topical subject — the Iraq war. Talk about that.

For every American serviceman or

"Not a day goes by that a [Florida] news story doesn't fit somewhere in a novel."

servicewoman who comes home [injured], there are lots of people affected by what happened, and many, many kids. I don't know the last count of how many were injured in Iraq ... but multiply that by the number of children. It's happening in homes all over the country, so I thought it deserved a mention.

AMY CAVANAUGH

→ *Politics & Prose*, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW; Fri., 10:30 a.m., free; 202-364-1919, politics-prose.com. (Van Ness-UDC)

→ *Barnes & Noble*, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda; Fri. 7 p.m., free; 301-986-1761, bn.com. (Bethesda)



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Drink With a Devil

The alcoholic antics of a solid cast lead to a devilish encounter

MUSIC | If Studio Theatre's "The Seafarer" accomplishes any one thing, it's to assure one of his or her own (relative) sobriety. These Dubliners make the "Mad Men" crew look like teetotalers.

In Conor McPherson's devilish comedy-drama, alcohol fuels many a bad decision. Richard's (Floyd King) ill-advised Dumpster-diving expedition two months earlier has left him blind, while his drinking buddy, Ivan (Edward Gero), loses his glasses, his car and perhaps his wife.

Meanwhile, Richard's brother Sharky's (Billy Meleady) 25-year-old act of violence leaves him indebted to the devil himself, who arrives to



INEBRIATED: Humorous suffering abounds when life is lived under the influence.

collect in the form of the dapper Mr. Lockhart (Philip Goodwin). Sharky cares for the perpetually drunk and demanding Richard while strug-

gling to hold onto his own sobriety and temper after losing a chauffeuring job in the countryside.

A Christmas Eve "celebration"

brings Mr. Lockhart to the brothers' dilapidated home. Lockhart accompanies Nicky (Jeff Allin), the Miller-swilling beau of Sharky's ex-wife, and the group settles down for a night of poker and liquor. When Richard, Nicky and Ivan run outside to scare off some winos, Lockhart informs Sharky of the game's true stakes, painting a picture of hell where one's "bones ache with a deep, perpetual agony."

Director Paul Mullins makes use of a talented cast. King and Gero make a deft comedic team, while Meleady glowers and simmers with Sharky's various burdens. Goodwin staggers and lurches, as if his Mr. Lockhart persona is barely able to contain the evil within his skin.

Russell Metheny's intricate and highly functional set design of the brothers' cottage provides the stage for many a pratfall, but also the dramatic outcome. **ERIN TROMPETER**

→ *Studio Theatre, Mead Theatre, 1501 14th St. NW, through Feb. 22, \$34-\$61, 202-332-3300, studiotheatre.org.*

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→ **'THE RECEPTIONIST'** The Studio Theatre, Feb. 25, \$25-\$30; 202-332-3300.

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we're certainly not going to play in anyone's band. We're pretty good DJs, but we're not the best. We just make music by any means necessary. Any way we can create a song we'll do it. That's what we do. Our musicians, they're the feature. We put them in front of us [onstage] because they're the ones doing the heavy lifting."

“We want to transcend our own culture as much as possible. We don't have to write pop songs to make money.”

ERIC HILTON, THIEVERY CORPORATION

One of the most riveting tracks on "Retaliation" is the lead track, the reggae-tinged "Sound the Alarm." Hilton has always had a deep appreciation for the Rastafarian way of life — choosing not to protest what bugs them, instead living a righteous natural life, eating organically, buying locally.

Thievery uses the Rastafarian notion of Babylon often in song. It refers to the unjust modern system in which lives are being shaped and a rich man's agenda is ruthlessly put forth — the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, the former Bush administration, Wall Street, K Street, Hollywood included. In "Alarm" guest performer Sleepy Wonder raps about "beating Babylon back."

Ways to beat the system?

"Riding a bicycle is beating Babylon back," says Hilton. "Going out to the club and having a couple of drinks and enjoying fellowship with your fellow man — that's beating Babylon back. Simple, fun small tasks."

Or going to a Thievery show?

"Yeah, I think that's a great way! There's nothing like being in a place with 1,200 people who are just kind of getting off on vibrations; that's what music really is, a series of vibrations. That sounds a lot better than going to a Redskins game and seeing 11 guys beat up on 11 other guys."

ALFREDO FLORES

→ 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; Thievery Corporation, Thu.-Sat., sold out; 202-265-0930, 930.com. (U St.-Cardozo)

MUSIC IS THE STAR: Rob Garza, left, and Eric Hilton prefer to stay in the background of their own shows, even when their band, Thievery Corporation, is the main draw.

COURTESY ESL MUSIC

Beating Back Babylon

Thievery Corporation's world of sound makes for a more chill planet

DVD | Thievery Corporation's Eric Hilton was a slacker while at Rockville's Thomas S. Wootton High School, and he's not afraid to admit it.

"I used to spend most of my time not studying," says Hilton, one half of the renowned global-minded electronica genre-hoppers who chose to spend his time listening to records and was obsessed with his beloved, now defunct, Bethesda-based WHFS 102.3. "They played punk, reggae, new wave, and they programmed the music very freely. Sadly, it doesn't exist anymore."

Here, Hilton wasn't just talking about WHFS, but rather the state

of free radio. That's the thrust of Thievery's latest project "Radio Retaliation" — a mind-blowing lyrical assault on corporate radio and the mainstream music it plays. In its music, TC pushes genres that don't get the attention they deserve, mixing elements of Brazilian, dub, Indian classical and acid jazz.

"These sounds, this music, it's just something different than we grew up with," says Hilton, whose partner Rob Garza also grew up in Maryland. "It'd be a shame to go through life and not experience some of that. We want to transcend our own culture as much as possible. We don't have to write pop songs to make money."

Their musical influences are all over the map, literally. Both are big fans of Latin music, particularly bossa nova (previously collaborating with Astrud and Bebel Gilberto).

to), Indian (sitar player virtuoso Anoushka Shankar, daughter of Ravi, and sarangi player Ustad Sultan Khan), alternative rock (David Byrne and Perry Ferrell) and jazz (Norah Jones and Herb Alpert), and have tried their hands with Afrobeat (Femi Kuti) and D.C. Go-Go (Chuck Brown).

And their international reach is huge. "Retaliation" is a top 10 album in several European countries, and TC regularly draws crowds in the tens of thousands; here at home, Hilton and Garza have sold out five consecutive nights at the 9:30 Club. Their recent work with Kuti, son of Afrobeat pioneer Fela, was well done despite being quickly made — Femi, after playing at the 9:30 the night before, cut the track at Thievery's Adams Morgan Eighteenth Street Lounge Music studio in an afternoon.

"He asked me how I imagined this song being sung, so I had to sing it in my fake Femi voice, which made him crack up," Hilton says. "Sometimes you have to embarrass yourself for the art."

While many DJs are the sole focus of their own shows, Thievery prefers to be in the back of the stage, Hilton keeping down beats; Garza playing rhythm guitar and keyboards, triggering samples — the duo's rhythm element. A plethora of live musicians from reggae group See-I, local funk foursome Fort Knox Five, bass player Ashish "Hash" Vyas, and various vocalists compliment the duo.

Since Thievery plays and writes music in addition to mixing it, they prefer to call itself a "production duo."

"We produce music," says Hilton. "We're okay musicians, but

Really Going Places

Nightmare on Wax's 'Thought So' is a musical travelogue

MUSIC | Typically, club music is not created in a camper van on the road. But sometimes that road ends in raver paradise, Ibiza, and begins in Leeds, where George Evelyn — the brains behind Nightmares on Wax — made his name as club owner, party thrower and progenitor of the soul-inflected techno he brings to D.C. this week.

He's also the progenitor of a young daughter, Mali, and the idea for NoW's latest album on Warp, "Thought So," arose from plans to move the family to warmer climes. But, Evelyn thought, "No way I'm gonna stick my studio on the back of a moving truck." So he fitted out the van with his gear and moved it himself, along with musical and familial companions.

"We were making beats while cruising through the mountains of Spain," says Evelyn. "Then there's



CHILL CLIMES: George Evelyn, aka EASE (Experimental Sample Expert), makes sonic landscapes out of three-dimensional ones.

my career. Music is an adventure, and that can mean going off the beaten track."

In that spirit, "We will be performing in a reggae soundsystem fashion," says Evelyn, "which is my upbringing and background." Evelyn's live turntablism will back dancehall toaster Ricky Ranking and singer Ella May.

It's a page stolen from a primary inspiration, De La Soul, with whom Evelyn collaborated on a 2000 EP. "They're pioneers," he says. "For me, I would put them down as the John Coltranes of hip-hop."

As a pioneer of his own sort, Evelyn also releases younger artists on his WaxOn label. "The younger acts totally inspire me to make music even more, which I was not even thinking about. So now I believe collectively we have a hub of creativity that's amazing, musically and spiritually."

What comes around goes around when young Mali "freestyles" during her dad's sets. "Most of my music gets the daughter test. She affects me and I affect her. It's a blessing on all levels."

BOB MASSEY

→ *Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; with DJ Stereofaith, Thu., 9 p.m., \$12; 202-667-7960. (U St.-Cardozo)*

Laughing Out Loud

Comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer gets chuckles of familiarity

COMEDY | Suzanne Westenhoefer's entry into the world of comedy came on a dare.

"I was bartending in Secaucus, New Jersey, and people would say 'you're so funny; you should do comedy!'" she recalls. "I thought I couldn't because I was gay, but I figured, 'What the heck?' People dared me to enter a contest, so I did it to shut them up, and ended up winning."

Westenhoefer, who now lives in Los Angeles, is one of the first out lesbian comedians. She uses "really personal things — life, family, animals, my car, my house" — as her material.

"The idea, of course, is to say



Westenhoefer mines her material from her own life for wide-ranging appeal.

personal things, and people laugh because ... it applies to everyone. I want someone to say, 'Oh, my God, we all do that!'

By pointing out similarities

between her life and that of the straight members of her audience, Westenhoefer isn't worried about her comedy getting lost in translation.

Westenhoefer performed at New York comedy clubs in the '90s, has performed on "Late Night With David Letterman," and had her own HBO comedy special, for which she picked up a Cable Ace Award nomination.

All her practice means that Westenhoefer doesn't need to have scripted performances.

"I just kind of go with the flow, and I'm more extemporaneous," she says. "I don't write down jokes or material, and whatever happens, happens." AMY CAVANAUGH

→ *Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; Sat., 7:30 p.m., \$45; 703-549-7500, birchmere.com.*

DANCE | RISE AND SHINE



LOIS GREENFIELD

DREAM STATES: The Karen Reedy Dance Company performs at Dance Place in a co-presentation with the Kennedy Center. "Sleepwalking" explores the infinite possibilities of sleeping and dreaming, with eight dancers in various states of en-Morpheusment, from insomnia to comfortable rest to nightmares. The program also includes "Path of Attraction," above.



RIGHTEOUSLY MODERNIST: Artist Matthew Thompson re-created the structures of Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1968 D.C. protest.

Plywood Growth

Matthew Thompson revives Resurrection City at MLK library

GALLERY | If Einstein is wacky hair and E=mc², Martin Luther King Jr. is fiery resolve and "I have a dream."

To capture a fuller sense of King as a person instead of an icon, it may be necessary to cite not the bullet points on his resume but some of his lesser moments.

Toward the end of his life, King was working on the Poor People's Campaign, which would bring protesters to D.C. to call for measures to alleviate poverty. Plans were made for a temporary encampment on the National Mall for 3,000 activists from across the country.

King didn't live to see the live-in, which was plagued by heavy rains. Although it attracted substantial coverage at the time, Resurrection City is little remembered today.

In "Hier Ist die Future," an installation in the lobby of the Mies van der Rohe-designed MLK

library, Matthew Thompson, a London artist on a Kluge research scholarship at the Library of Congress, explores the odd way that an autocratic architect and a populist preacher have been thrown together by history.

“There are lots of things about the library, which, for me, are appealing but quite sad, in terms of this pristine ... modern building.”

The exhibit centers on a full-size re-creation of one of the shelters originally designed for Resurrection City by architect John Wiegenson. Like those structures, it's made of plywood, a material that Thompson sees as a coincidental link to both Van der Rohe and King.

Van der Rohe's library regularly pops its improperly gasketed windows. "Due to temperature

change, there's a buildup of tension on the windows, and they crack," Thompson explains. "In between replacement, they're boarded up with plywood."

"For me, looking at the '68 riots that followed King's death, there was an immediate visual connection to all the boarded-up windows post-riot. And I was thinking about plywood as being something which was one of these materials which is so ubiquitous that people forget about all the different types of low-end-of-the-market uses it has."

And like the Poor People's Campaign, the MLK library never quite lived up to the hype.

"There are lots of things about the library which, for me," Thompson says, "are appealing but quite sad, in terms of this idea of this pristine, multi-functioning modern building which slightly fails on that level."

GLENN DIXON

→ *Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G St. NW; through Feb. 28; 202-727-0321. (Gallery Place-Chinatown)*

Only in Their Dreams

A slice of sleep in Curator's Office's 'Lucid Dreaming'

GALLERY | Regarding "Lucid Dreaming" at Curator's Office feels similar to the aftermath of vivid fantasies and nightmares borne of the deepest REM. The images refocus in the mind; their symmetry morphs and gains less clarity but more depth.

Simon Gouverneur, Jason Hughes and Paul Laffoley have mined the id for its jewel-like excavations amid the physical jetsam along the fringes of the mind's eye. In Laffoley's "Geochronmechanic: Time Machine From the Earth," a gridlike structure suggests the biomechanical flights of H.R. Giger if they were given a serious buff and polish.

Hughes' "Power Trip" reads like an American Indian fabric print whose whimsical spiral patterns juxtaposed red and black, bringing to mind, perversely, the current economic crisis, each pinwheel spinning like a wheel of (mis)fortune.

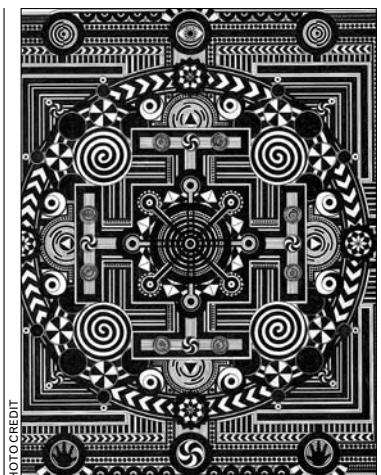


PHOTO CREDIT: Jason Hughes' "Mind Games" plays tricks—or pretends to—on the eye.

Gouverneur's "Mara" is almost a *trompe l'oeil*. Eye shapes are layered over what appear to be the letter and number tests you squint at during eye exams. Hughes' "Manifest" is rendered in fatigues colors and aligns its triangles and circles with military precision. "Peyote" is vision-blurring cascade of zigzags, but each melting into the waterfall of its partners like an optical illusion.

Nothing on display here is a trick. But what can be seen will linger long after you visit. In Washington's current state of being, believing is seeing.

CHRISTOPHER CORREA

→ *Curator's Office, 1515 14th St. NW, Suite 201; 202-387-1008, curators office.com.*

IMPORTED POP | SIREN'S SONGS



MARCUS PALMQVIST

PRODIGY: At only 22, Swedish pop songstress Lykke Li has a mature way with melody and a quirky, endearing voice. Her sweet little tunes will dig their infamously catchy hooks into your head, and maybe make you cry. On Saturday night, Sixth & I becomes the first American stop on her current tour.

Love During Times of War

A look back at history delivers new scenes of love, lust and loss

STAGE | "Arms and the Man" is called "George Bernard Shaw's satire about war, politics and idealism," which is an odd way of talking about a winning romantic comedy. Audiences should not head to Silver Spring Stage expecting "Arms" to be a trudge through big ideas; it is sweet, sexy and only subtly intellectual.

Shaw's script is an enlightening piece of historical fiction about the brief Serbo-Bulgarian War of 1885, set in the home of the Petkoffs, a wealthy Bulgarian family.

"Arms" begins with cascades of gunfire as news arrives that Bulgarian forces have routed the Serbs and are hunting down the fleeing invaders and their mercenaries, such as the Swiss gentleman (Bob Kleinberg as Captain Bluntschli) who bursts into the bedroom of Raina Petkoff (Katie Keddell) and, with a pistol, commands her silence. Soon



rebellious hero of Bulgaria's great victory Sergius (Dennis Chapoval), but the marital alliance — eagerly anticipated by Mrs. Petkoff (director Toni Carmine) — is complicated by an eavesdropping, insolent household servant: Louka (E. L. Bruce-Lewis).

The cast of "Arms" is excellent (Chapoval and Carmine particularly), but Bruce-Lewis shines brightest. Louka is a sharp-tongued, beautiful farmer's daughter unwilling to accept her destiny as dictated by her social class, and she has an interest in Sergius as well. The disappointingly predictable amorous intrigues of Raina, Sergius, Louka and Bluntschli are the play's focus.

"Arms" offers sly comments about Great Power politics and the emerging dominance of capitalism, but the smartest points the play makes are simple ones about the human heart. **TIM FOLLOS**

OPPOSITES ATTRACT: Shaw's satire touches on serious matters of politics but shines when dealing with matters of the heart

enough, though, the young, pretty Raina is feeling unalloyed sympathy for Bluntschli, a sad sack for the ages, and he is allowed to stay for the one evening.

Raina is engaged to the proud,

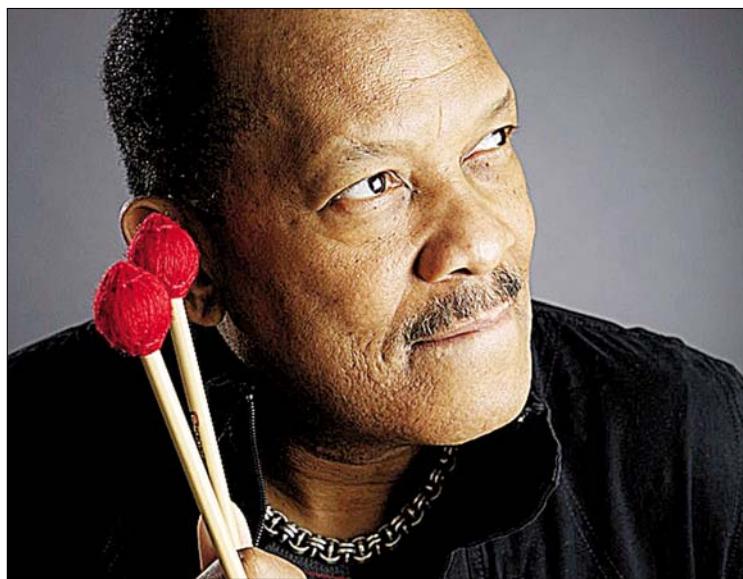
→ **Silver Spring Stage, 10145 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; through Sun., \$13-\$18; 301-593-6036, ssstage.org.**

Grooves Still in High Demand

The much-sampled Roy Ayers is music's go-to guy for beats

MUSIC | It's been five years since Roy Ayers released his last disc, "Mahogany Vibes." And despite the guest appearance of Erykah Badu, the album really didn't optimize his reputation as one of the most versatile vibraphonists and songwriters around. Actually, the disc sucked.

Luckily, though, he has a solid and diverse oeuvre to draw upon, which serves him well during live shows. With a career stretching back to the early '60s, when he was laying airy melodies alongside the likes of saxophonist Curtis Amy and big band leader Gerald Wilson, then peaking in the '70s with hits like "Everybody Loves the Sunshine," "We Live in Brooklyn Baby" and



UNIVERSAL ATTRACIONS

A fiery live show and decades of songwriting come with Roy Ayers to Blues Alley.

"Red, Black and Green" — all of which have become hip-hop sample staples — Ayers has the song-

book to unite generations under various grooves.

In addition to the aforemen-

tioned songs, Ayers has made some noteworthy flirtations with Afrobeat, disco, deep house and broken beat. His rhythmic agility and melodic improvisations continue to provide heat for electronica mavericks such as Masters at Work and Jazzy Nova, and hip-hop royalty acts like Talib Kweli and Common.

The challenge is getting one of those acts — where's Questlove when you need him? — to produce a disc of new material that will truly star Ayers in a shining light. Until that time, Ayers' electrifying shows will suffice. And if you're itching to feel his vibes, then check him out this weekend at Blues Alley.

JOHN MURPH

→ **Blues Alley, 1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW; through Sat.; 8 & 10 p.m.; \$35; 202-337-4141, bluesalley.com.**

ART | BITE-SIZED



SHAWNNE MAJOR

CELEBRATE SMALL: "Aspect: Ratio 2," an ongoing showcase at Irvine Contemporary, highlights the work of artists who shun obese canvases and instead focus on the interplay of concept, complexity and scale.

Jason and the Apathy

A classical epic hits the small screen as a talky, awkward game

VIDEO GAME | Ever since mega-developer Bioware set the bar high in 2007 with its action-role-playing-hybrid-space-opera "Mass Effect," gamers have been chomping at the bit for the next big thing in the Western RPG arena. With some impressive trailers and a compelling setting, "Rise of the Argonauts" looked to be the right fit. But poor design choices, some uneven gameplay and irritating bugs make this trip of the Argo more of a tiresome journey than an epic odyssey.

The story is classic Jason and the Argonauts, but with modern tweaks: There's a Golden Fleece,

overly involved gods, singing sirens, Hercules, Atlanta and a ship called the Argo. Throw Achilles and Pan into the mix and the quest motivation changes, so the driving force is the resurrection of Jason's dead fiancée, who's been rather rudely assassinated during their wedding. For all of its departures from the original myths, the plot is fairly intriguing and provides for a few surprises.

The first hint of trouble with the game is that its story is primarily told through long branching dialogue sequences whose style owes more than a little to "Mass Effect." But where that earlier game had wildly divergent paths (even offering you a chance to kill one of your companions at one point), "Argonauts" feels flat. With the player



COURTESY CODMASTER

"Rise of the Argonauts" wins when it comes to combat but fails with real content.

choices having little effect on the outcome, it feels a bit like watching a cinematic (or "cut scene," the storytelling action within a game) in which you occasionally hit a button. It also doesn't help that the

character animation during these sequences falls squarely into the "talking heads" category.

The game is much more dynamic in the combat. Jason comes equipped with a sword, spear and

mace that you can switch on the fly to create combos, and as your skills progress, you are eventually granted "god powers" with more options. Unfortunately, the enemy AI is such that you'll never actually need to do anything other than mash the same attack time after time.

Another hitch in the action part of this "action-RPG" is that there quite simply isn't very much of it. Combat, when it happens, is over fairly quickly, and the enemies never respawn. Couple this with the wonky AI of your uncontrollable companions, who have an uncanny knack for blocking where you want to go, or in the case of the gigantic bulk of Hercules, frequently blocking your camera.

Everything in "Rise of the Argonauts" lacks the polish of a finished game. There's a bunch of great ideas buried underneath a swath of technical issues. The saddest part here is that with another six months of time, this could have been something truly legendary.

MICAH PEARSON (EXPRESS)

Take 10

THE WASHINGTON POST'S FILM CRITICS TACKLE THIS WEEK'S BOX-OFFICE TOP 10

1 | Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Kevin James gamely pratfalls and stumbles through 90 minutes of this mediocre, unmemorable comedy, but his clumsy somersaults elicit few giggles. JEN CHANEY

2 | Underworld: Rise of the Lycans

It's vampires versus werewolves in this sturdy horror-action franchise. This film was not screened for review.

3 | Gran Torino

Clint Eastwood delivers a breathtaking performance in a by turns appalling and hilarious role that recalls great ghosts of Eastwood vigilante thrillers past. "Gran Torino" is not to be missed. ANN HORNADAY

4 | Hotel for Dogs

The kids are cute, the dogs are cuter, the dogs outnumber the kids, and the adult world is defeated by truth, justice and Don Cheadle.

JOHN ANDERSON



Indies&Arties

Woman's Best Friend

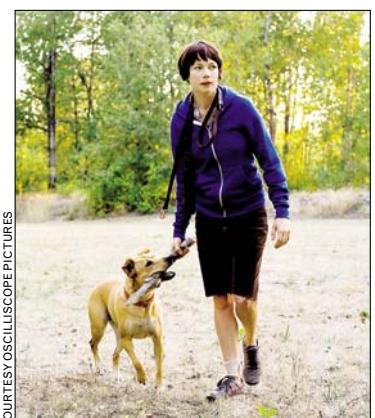
In Kelly Reichard's "Wendy and Lucy," a young woman (Michelle Williams) plunges through the tattered economic safety net into true peril as she travels to Alaska in search of work, losing every sustaining value including her beloved dog. Williams is getting huge buzz for the role as the drifting Wendy (the director's pet plays Lucy) in this damning look at life at the lower rungs of the American economy.

→ LANDMARK E STREET CINEMA, 855 11TH ST. NW; OPENS FRI., \$10; 202-452-7672, LANDMARKTHEATRES.COM. (METRO CENTER)

It Happened One Night

One of the most popular comedies of the '30s is also a great date flick. Frank Capra's "It Happened One Night," being shown at AFI as part of its Screen Valentines: Great Movie Romances series, stars a spitfire Claudette Colbert and a shirtless (!) Clark Gable sparring, scrapping, bantering and possibly—spoiler alert!—falling in love. See it with some infuriating charmer you can't wait to kiss.

→ AFI, 8633 COLESVILLE ROAD, SILVER SPRING; SAT. & SUN., \$10; 301-495-6720, AFI.COM /SILVER. (SILVER SPRING)



"Wendy and Lucy" provides a fresh and compelling take on man's best friend.

Not Just Spitting Hot Fire

Freestyle rapping usually means heated verbal altercations in rhyme, boasts, disses and even the occasional classic "yo' momma" joke. Hip-Hop Cinema Café strives to change the game by screening "Freestyle: The Art of Rhyme," documenting the rise of underground hip-hop artists and DJs. The screening will be followed by a discussion including panelists Head-Roc, LabTekwon, Tyrone Norris and Kobia Nichols, and will be moderated by Konyka Dunson.

→ HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, 801 K ST. NW; SAT., 2 P.M., FREE; 202-383-1850, HISTORYDC.ORG. (GALLERY PLACE-CHINATOWN)

WHERE WOLF? The third "Underworld" installment is also blue, black and shiny.

5 | Slumdog Millionaire

With its timely setting of a swiftly globalizing India, "Slumdog Millionaire" plays like Charles Dickens for the 21st century, with coal dust replaced by a computer-screen glow. ANN HORNADAY

6 | My Bloody Valentine 3-D

The 1981 horror hit gets a remake and an extra dimension. This film was not screened for review.

7 | Inkheart

"Inkheart" packs a welcome amount of entertainment value, creating a genuinely original world of enchantment, and it has a style and snap all its own. ANN HORNADAY

8 | Bride Wars

Predictable, lazy and as overprocessed as Kate Hudson's hair, this thoroughly joyless movie also possesses a nasty streak. ANN HORNADAY

9 | The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

There's no denying the sheer ambition and technical prowess of this film. What's less clear is whether it entirely earns its own inflated sense of self-importance. ANN HORNADAY

10 | Notorious

This biopic about the life and death of Notorious B.I.G. feels like Biggie's Wikipedia page reformatted for the big screen. CHRIS RICHARDS

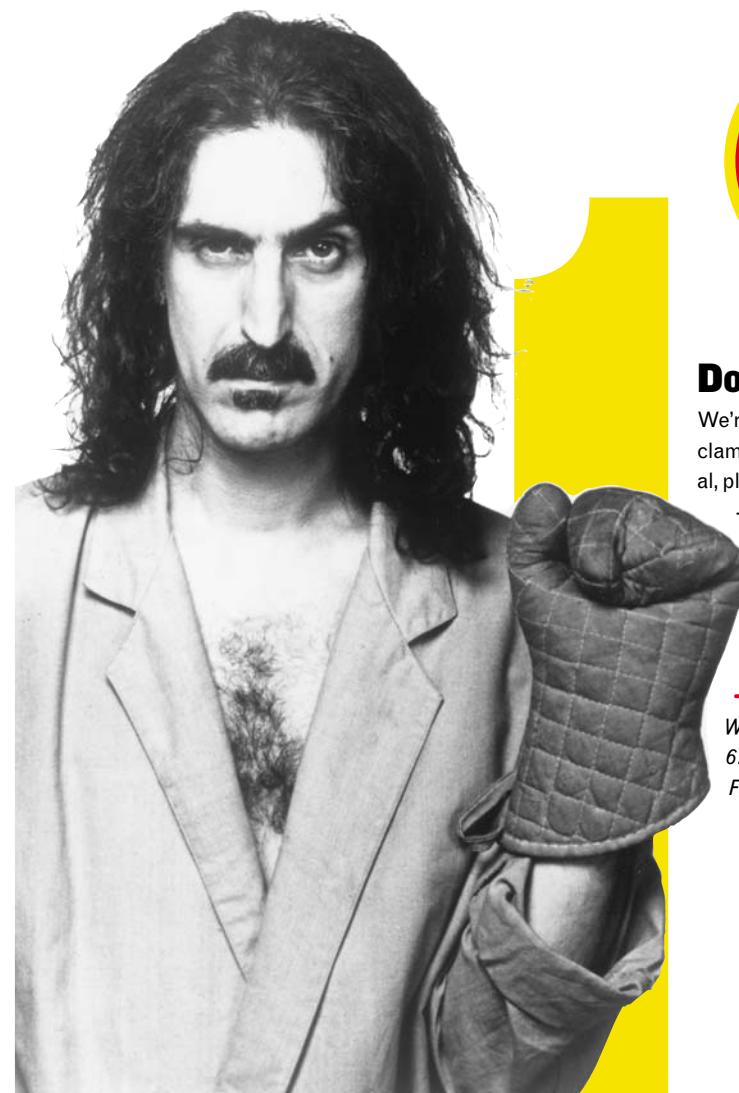
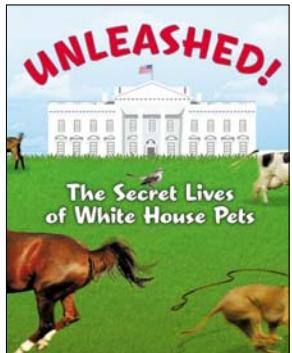
WeekendPass

Entertainment



3 Hail to the Chihuahua

The White House will always witness scandals, but imagine what the resident beasties have seen. Find out in "Unleashed: The Secret Lives of White House Pets," a play for ages 7 and up. → **Kennedy Center**, 2700 F St. NW; opens Fri., through Feb. 22, \$18; 202-467-4600, kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)



Don't Freak Out

We're not entirely sure the '00s were clamoring for the bizarre, intellectual, playful—but, OK, mostly bizarre—skronk that is the music of the late Frank Zappa, but tribute band Project Object nevertheless keeps the weirdness alive at the State Theatre on Sunday.

→ **The State Theatre**, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church; Sun., 6:30 p.m., \$20; 703-237-0300. (East Falls Church)

4 Cheap Rock Done Right

Baltimore plays host to the Aural States Fest, featuring a stream of local breakout bands including Wye Oak, left, Arbouretum and the Pleasant Livers, over a two-night span, for the price of two lattes.

→ **Sonar**, 407 E. Saratoga St., Baltimore, Md.; Fri. & Sat., \$10, 410-783-7888, auralstates.com.



2 Can You Move It Like Mozart?

The Mark Morris Dance Group returns to the Kennedy Center for the first time in 10 years with "Mozart Dances," a three-part performance that marries the composer's joyous music to the choreographer's contemporary vision.

→ **Kennedy Center**, 2700 F St. NW; Thu.-Sun., \$22-\$65; 202-467-4600, kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)

top stops

WEEKEND



5 Little Slice of Life

Dutch painting came down to earth in the 17th century as artists turned to the urban landscape for inspiration. The National Gallery of Art celebrates squares, buildings, bustling populace—and that ineffable light—in "Pride of Place: Dutch CityScapes in the Golden Age."

→ **National Gallery of Art**, 600 Constitution Ave. NW; opens Sat., through March 3; 202-737-4215, nga.gov. (Archives-Navy Memorial)

The Scene

Sound

→ THURSDAY

9:30 Club: Thievery Corporation, 7 p.m., sold out.

Birchmere: The Outlaws, 7:30 p.m., \$45.

Black Cat: Nightmares on Wax, 9 p.m., \$12.

Blues Alley: Roy Ayers, 8 & 10 p.m., \$35.

Bohemian Caverns: Sound of the City, 8 p.m., \$5 without reservations.

Comet Ping Pong: Mother/Father, the White Noise Supreme, 10:30 p.m., free.

DC9: Kirsten Price, Damien Alexander, 9 p.m., \$10-\$12.

Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage: Delta Moon Blues Concert, 6 p.m., free.

Mansion at Strathmore: John Davis: Music of Blind Tom and Blind Boone, 7:30 p.m., \$25.

The Red and the Black: Ffever, Naked Hearts, Kitty Hawk, 9 p.m., \$6.

Rock and Roll Hotel: Ballas Hough Band, 9:45 p.m., \$15.

State Theatre: Gin Blossom, Crash Boom Bang, 8:30 p.m., \$27.

Velvet Lounge: The Public Good, Blue Pinto, Braxton Parker, 9:30 p.m., \$7.

→ FRIDAY

9:30 Club: Thievery Corporation, 8 p.m., sold out.

Black Cat: The Chance, Bottles/Cans, Gist, 9 p.m., \$10. "Sorted" with DJ Stereo Faith (backstage), 9:30 p.m., \$6.

Blues Alley: Roy Ayers, 8 & 10 p.m., \$35.

Bohemian Caverns: David Ornette Cherry, 8:30 & 10:30 p.m., \$20.

DC9: Liberation Dance Party, 9 p.m., \$6.

Iota: Panacea, DJ Damu, 9:30 p.m., \$10.

Jammin' Java: The School of Rock presents "The Who's Greatest Hits," 2 & 6 p.m., \$10. The Blackjacks, U.S. Royalty, 9 p.m., \$10-\$12.

Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage: Run of the Mill String Band, 6 p.m., free.

The Red and the Black: Nico Vega, Semi Precious Weapons, Von Iva, 9:30 p.m., \$10.

Rock and Roll Hotel: The Breakups, the Milkstains, the Moderate, 9:30 p.m., \$10.

Velvet Lounge: Milkmachine, Accordion Death Squad, American Sinners, the Swordswallowers, 10 p.m., \$8.

→ SATURDAY

9:30 Club: Thievery Corporation, 8 p.m., sold out.

Continued on E12

express

Weddings



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Visit expressnightout.com and click on the contest link. You will be prompted to complete basic information and responses to discussion questions, and to attach a photograph. If you have questions, please send an e-mail with subject line "Weddings Contest" to weddings@readexpress.com.

Selecting the winning couple:

Express features editors will select five finalist couples whose profiles will appear in the Friday, February 20, issue of the Express Weekend Styles section. Entrants with the most compelling and creative submissions will be selected as finalist couples. Then, Express readers will vote for their favorite finalist couple from February 20 through February 27, and the winning couple will be announced in Weekend Styles on March 6. One couple will win a wedding package worth \$35,000!

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No purchase necessary. Entrants must be engaged, 21+ years old, and a legal resident of the District of Columbia, Maryland, or Virginia. Employees of Express Publications, LLC, The Washington Post, and each of the prize providers are not eligible. Entries must be received by 11:59 PM ET on Sunday, February 8, 2009. Subject to complete official rules. See official rules for ARV of each prize element.

WeekendPass

Entertainment

LOCAL HEROES | BEST SHOW FORWARD



COURTESY STEVE LOSEY

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION NOT REQUIRED: Sometimes you change up the man with the sticks for completely reasonable reasons as local band Gaslight Society tries to break in a new drummer at its first gig of the year at the Red & the Black on Saturday. Even though we're almost a month in, get the new year started right.

The Scene

Continued from E10

Black Cat: "Homo/Sonic" dance party, 9:30 p.m., \$10.

Blues Alley: Roy Ayers, 8 & 10 p.m., \$35.

DC9: Nouveau Riche, 9 p.m., \$8.

Iota: The Reserves, No Second Troy, Cop-

per Sails, 9:30 p.m., \$10.

Jammin' Java: Face the Fish, 9 p.m., \$10.

Jaxx: Localpalooza, 6:15 p.m., \$10-\$12.

Zo2, Misfit, Fuzzbox: 9:15 p.m., \$5.

The Red and the Black: Gaslight Society, Rabo tha Don & the Crimestoppers, Alexis George, 9 p.m., \$8.

Rock and Roll Hotel: Telegraph, Cobra Collective, American Bang, Triggers, 9 p.m., \$10.

State Theatre: Livewire, 9 p.m., \$12.

Velvet Lounge: Beatnik Flies, Sister Ex, Dollar Bin, 10 p.m., \$8.

→ SUNDAY

9:30 Club: Thievery Corporation, 8 p.m., sold out.

Blues Alley: Roy Ayers, 8 & 10 p.m., \$35.

Bohemian Caverns: David Ornette Cherry, 8:30 & 10:30 p.m., \$20.

State Theatre: Project Object (Frank Zappa tribute), 9 p.m., \$20.

Sight

American University/Katzen Arts

Center: "Carrie Moyer: Painting Propaganda," thin oranges and reds mix to form powerful and violent images,

through March 15. "Paul Daniel: Kinetic Sculpture," large, flowing outdoor sculptures, through March 22. "Evri Kwong: Just Pretend Everything Is OK," societal ills confronted through narrative painting, through March 22. Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-885-2787, american.edu/academic.depts/cas/katzen.

Anacostia Community Museum: "Jubilee: African American Celebration," a series of photographs of black celebrations from baptisms to Mardi Gras to Election Day, through Sept. 20. 1901 Fort Place SE; 202-633-1000, anacostia.si.edu.

Arlington Arts Center: "Public/Private," exploring two worlds of artistic expression through a mixed media exhibition from a variety of artists, opens Fri., through April 4. 3550 Wilson Blvd.; 703-248-6849, arlingtonartscenter.org.

Art Whino Gallery: "Proof of Faith," painter Bryan Collins confronts a bleak future with cautious, cartoonish optimism, through Feb. 15. 173 Waterfront St., National Harbor; 301-567-8210, artwhino.com.

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: "Moving Perspectives: Lida Abdul and Dinh Q Le," video art by Afghani artist Lida Abdul and Dinh Q Le of Vietnam explores the shifting nature of traumatic memories and the resilience of life, through March 1. "Winslow Homer: Four Views of Nature," through May 25. "Perspectives: Anish

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Entertainment | WeekendPass

The Scene

Kapoor," the artist's "S-Curve," a large-scale installation, through July 19. 1050 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-1000, asia.si.edu.

Carroll Square Gallery: "Structural Vision," works by Morgan Craig, Sangbin Im, Tricia Keightley, through March 20. 975 F St. NW; 202-234-5601, carrollsquare.com/gallery.

Civilian Arts Projects: "Carole Wagner Greenwood: Ghosts and Circumstance," the D.C.-based artist and chef presents a series of sculptures. "Dame Darcy: Gasoline," post-apocalyptic in the form of comic-book illustrations from Darcy's upcoming book, through Feb. 7. 406 7th St. NW; 202-347-0022, civilianartprojects.com

Corcoran Gallery of Art: Closed for renovations until March 14. 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700, corcoran.org.

Curator's Office: "Lucid Dreaming: Simon Gouverneur, Jason Hughes, Paul Laffoley," modern visionary works with a dreamlike quality, through Feb. 14. 1515 14th St. NW; 202-387-1008, curatorsoffice.com.

DAR Museum: "Return to Toyland," This playful exhibition celebrates childhood of the past with late 19th- and early 20th-century toys, through Feb. 28. 1776 D St. NW; 202-879-3241, dar.org/museum.

D.C. Arts Center: "David Hartwell: Broad Street Pilgrimage, Richmond, Virginia," the artist hiked Route 250 for 16.8 miles to make this photographic memoir, through Feb. 8. 2438 18th St. NW; 202-462-7833, dcartscenter.org.

District Fine Arts: "Leah Tinari: Masquerade Madness," Tinari's exaggerated party people are in the house, through March 28. 1639 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-328-9100, dfaonline.com.

Ellipse Arts Center: "Crossing Glances/

Continued on E14

FAMILY | BUNNY BEATS



SCOTT SUCHMAN

TO-DO LIST: Musician, actor and playwright Psalmayene 24 (aka Gregory Morrison) gives wee Washingtonians a lesson in West African myth, hip-hop culture and D.C. itself with "Zomo the Rabbit: a Hip-Hop Creation Myth" at Imagination Stage. Even Ben's Chili Bowl makes this adventure.

venues

5000, DCNINE.COM.

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→ **IOTA:** 2832 WILSON BLVD.; ARLINGTON; 703-522-8340.

→ **JAMMIN' JAVA:** 227 MAPLE AVENUE EAST, VIENNA, VA; 703-255-1566, JAMMINJAVA.COM.

→ **JAXX:** 6355 ROLLING ROAD, SPRINGFIELD, VA; 703-569-5940, JAXXROXX.COM.

→ **KENNEDY CENTER:** 2700 F ST. NW; 202-467-4600, KENNEDY-CENTER.ORG.

→ **THE RED & THE BLACK:** 1212 H ST.

NE; 202-399-3201, REDANDBLACKBAR.COM.

→ **ROCK AND ROLL HOTEL:** 1353 H ST. NE; 202-388-7625, ROCKANDROLLHOTELDC.COM.

→ **STATE THEATRE:** 220 N. WASHINGTON TON, FALLS CHURCH; 703-237-0300, THESTATETHEATRE.COM.

→ **STRATHMORE:** 10701 ROCKVILLE PIKE, BETHESDA; 301-581-5100, STRATHMORE.ORG.

→ **TWINS JAZZ:** 344 U ST. NW; 202-234-0072, TWINSJAZZ.COM.

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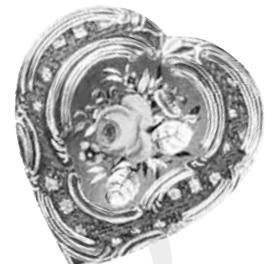
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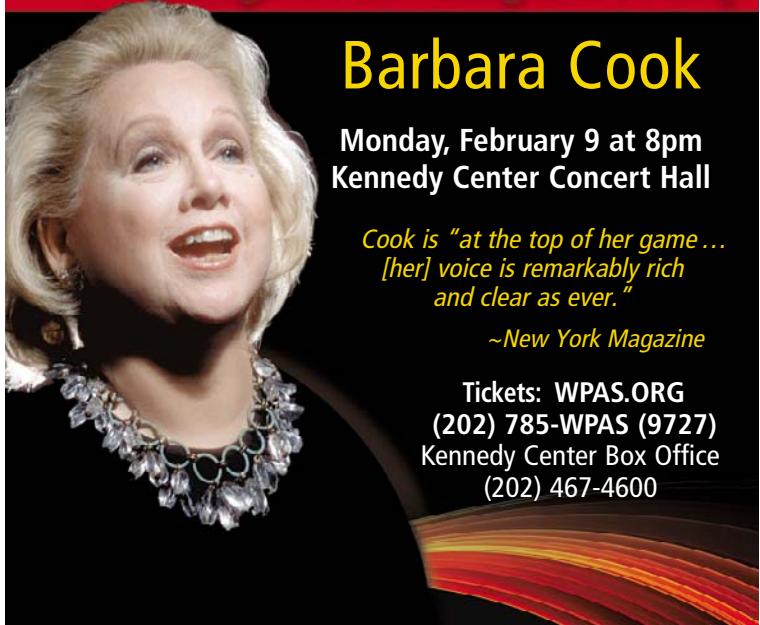
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GALLERIES | TAKING SHAPES



BRANDON MORRIS

LOOK DEEPER: Two strange new shows at Conner Contemporary. John Kirchner confronts "Unknowns" — 18th-century painters whose names are lost to us — by augmenting their middlebrow work with common objects. Video artist Brandon Morse shows doomed architectural forms vainly fending off an amorphous but no less disconcerting attack.

TheScene

Continued from E13

Regards Croises," Arlington photographer John Babineau and his French counterpart, Cecile Bethleem, exchange photographic glances of each other's home city, through March 28, 4350 Fairfax Drive, Arlington; 703-228-7710, arlingtonarts.org.

Folger Shakespeare Library: Shakespeare's First Folio and other works on permanent display, 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-7077, folger.edu.

LAST CHANCE Foundry Gallery: "Dean Manis Works on Paper," oils, watercolors, prints and drawings, through Sun. 1314 18th St. NW; 202-463-0203, foundry-gallery.org.

Freer Gallery of Art: "Guests of the Hills: Travelers and Recluses in Chinese Landscape Painting," through Feb. 22. "Golden Seams: The Japanese Art of Mending Ceramics," a show demonstrating

the ceramic-mending methods of Japanese craftsmen, through April 5. "Moonlight and Golden Clouds: Silver and Gold in the Arts of Japan," painting, calligraphy, lacquer, metalwork and architecture, through April 5. "Winslow Homer: Four Views of Nature," through May 25. Jefferson Drive & 12th Street SW; 202-633-1000, asia.si.edu.

LAST CHANCE Gallery Neptune: "A Logic of Their Own Making," Carol Barash's drawings and paintings of coiled objects, including bird nests and paper tape rolls, through Sat. 5001 Wilson Lane, Bethesda; 301-718-0809, galleryneptune.com.

G Fine Art: "This is Our Music," Ian Whitmore's polyglot style is put on display through a series of paintings tied together by recurring motifs, through Feb. 14. 1515 14th St. NW; 202-462-1601, gfinetdc.com.

Goethe-Institut: "Ivonne Thein: Thirty-Two Kilos," this photographic exhibition examines the subject of anorexia, through

Feb. 27. 812 7th St. NW; 202-289-1200, goethe.de/ins/us/was/enindex.htm.

Hemphill Fine Arts Gallery: "A Homecoming Celebration," selections from one of the oldest collections of African-American art, through Mar. 7, 1515 14th St. NW; 202-234-5601, hemphillfinearts.com.

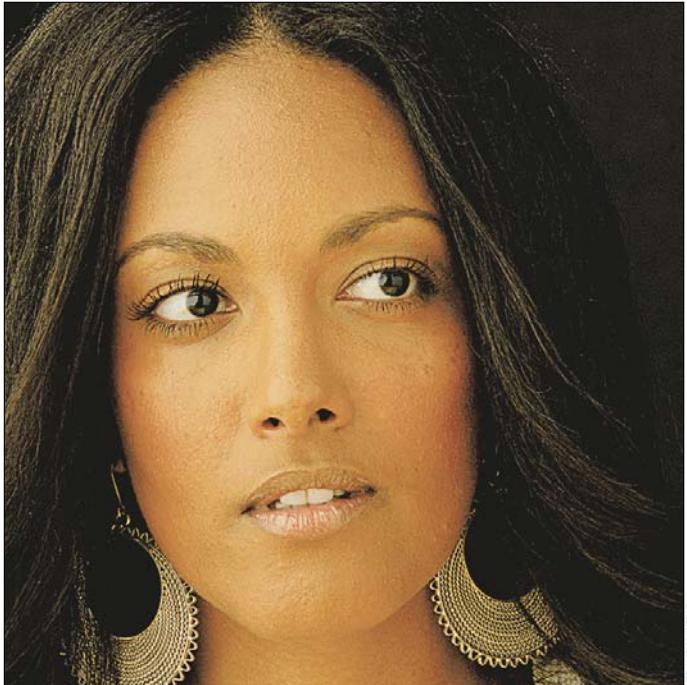
LAST CHANCE H & F Fine Arts Gallery: "Obama: Art and Politics," paintings, drawings, collages and more dedicated to the new American president, through Sat. 3311 Rhode Island Ave.; 301-887-0080, hffinearts.com.

LAST CHANCE The Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery at Smith Farm Center: "Stars and Stripes: Pride and Hope Reinterpreted," 16 artists of various backgrounds take on the ideas, ideals and disappointments of America, through Sat. 1632 U St. NW; 202-483-8600, smithfarm.com.

Hirshhorn: "Strange Bodies: Figurative Works From the Hirshhorn Collection," through early 2010. "Directions: Terence Gower, Public Spirit" features plans

Entertainment | **WeekendPass****The Scene**

R&B | LONG AWAY FROM HOME



GEDYON KIFLE

STAGESTRUCK: From the Clintons to crooning, the sultry R&B stylings of singer Wayna emerged after three years in the White House. The Ethiopian native and University of Maryland grad brings her sweet, sassy tone and smooth grooves come to Bohemian Cavern on Thursday.

Continued on E16

for Hirshhorn's art-based town in the wilderness of Canada, through March 22. "Black Box: Ori Gersht," through April 12. 7th Street & Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, hirshhorn.org.

LAST CHANCE Historical Society of Washington: "March on Washington: 45th Anniversary," "Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement," "Quilts for Obama," More than 60 interpretive quilts commemorate the inauguration of Barack Obama, through Sat. 801 K St. NW; 202-383-1850.

Huntington Community Center: "PGAA People of Color," a multimedia group show demonstrating the diversity of Prince George's County, through Feb. 26. 13022 8th St., Bowie; 301-464-3725.

International Spy Museum: Permanent displays of wristwatch cameras, poison gas guns, a World War II Enigma cipher machine and other coding machines, disguises, etc. 800 F St. NW; 202-393-7798, spymuseum.org.



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TheScene

Continued from E15

Irvine Contemporary: "Aspect:Ratio 2," small-format paintings, through Feb. 14. 1412 14th St. NW; 202-332-8767, irvinecontemporary.com.

LAST CHANCE Kathleen Ewing Gallery: "Birth Place," photographs by Rob McDonald. "Egg & Nest," photographs by Rosamond Purcell. "Over: The American Landscape at the Tipping Point," photographs by Alex MacLean, all through Sat. 1767 P St. NW; 202-328-0955.

Koshland Science Museum: "Global

PHOTOGRAPHY | THROUGH THEIR EYES



CECILE BETHLEEM

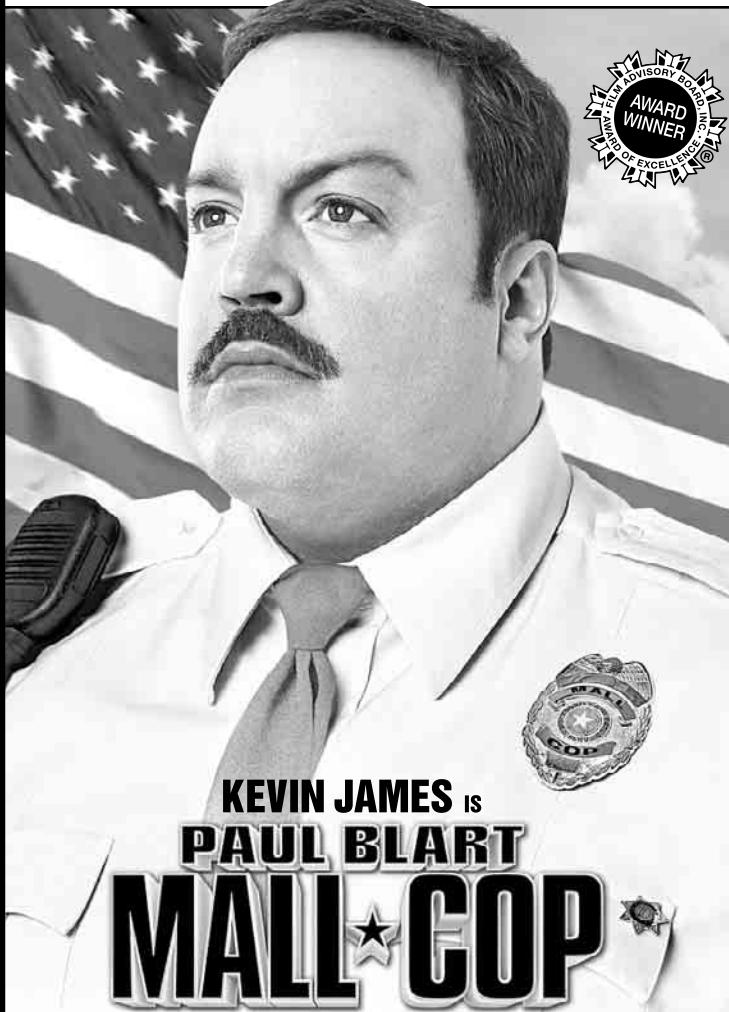
LOOK HERE: Reims, France-based photographer Cecile Bethleem and Arlington-based photographer John Babineau trained their lenses on each other's home cities for "Crossing Glances," a revealing show at Ellipse Arts Center. It's worth seeing—and arguing about—wherever your home is.

"Warming Facts & Our Future," "Infectious Disease: Evolving Challenges to Human Health," "Wonders of Science," ongoing. 6th & E streets NW; 202-334-1201, kosh-and-science-museum.org.

Library of Congress: "Creating the United States," American treasures including a draft of the Declaration of Independence, ongoing. 101 1st St. SE; 202-707-4604. loc.gov.

LAST CHANCE Mansion at Strathmore: Joyce Zipper: "Unmentionables ... Then and Now," through Sat. "Potomac Valley Watercolorists 25th Anniversary," a juried exhibition featuring original work by top watercolor artists, through Feb. 21. 10701 Rockville Pike, Bethesda; 301-581-

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"UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS" MICHAEL SHEEN BILL NIGHY RHONA MITRA STEVEN MACKINTOSH
KEVIN Grevioux PAUL HASLINGER SKIP WILLIAMS HENRY WINTERSTEIN JAMES McQUAIDE ERIC REED BETH DEPLIE
PRODUCED BY TOM ROSENBERG GARY LUCCHESI LEN WISEMAN RICHARD WRIGHT WRITTEN BY KEVIN Grevioux AND LEN WISEMAN & DANNY McBRIDE
LEN WISEMAN & ROBERT ORR AND DANNY McBRIDE DIRECTED BY DANNY McBRIDE AND DIRK BLACKMAN & HOWARD McCAN WRITTEN BY PATRICK TATOPoulos

R RESTRICTED
UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN

BLOODY VIOLENCE AND SOME SEXUALITY

LAKESHORE ENTERTAINMENT
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SORRY, NO PASSES ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT

Entertainment | WeekendPass

REVUE | SONGS OF OLD BERLIN



COURTESY OF ARENA STAGE

YES, HE WROTE THAT ONE: Black and white memories come to the stage as "I Love a Piano" celebrates the music and lyrics of Irving Berlin at Lincoln Theatre, opening Thursday. No white Christmas or blue skies should keep you from humming along with this musical revue and journey, including 64 of Berlin's numbers and seven decades of U.S. history.

The Scene

5100, strathmore.org.

LAST CHANCE **Marsha Mateyka** **Gallery:** "Jae Ko: Recent Work," a solo exhibition of wall-hung sculptures and floor installations. through Sat. 2012 R St. NW; 202-328-0088, marshamateyka.com.

National Academy of Sciences: "The Theater of Insects," photographs from Jo Whaley, through March 3. 2100 C St. NW; 202-334-2436, nasonline.org.

National Aquarium: Celebrate America's aquatic treasures in this beautiful refurbished underground space, ongoing. 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-482-2825, nationalaquarium.com.

National Building Museum: "Detour: Architecture & Design along 18 National

Tourist Routes in Norway," through May 25. "Green Community" explores communities united by a quest for ecological sustainability, through Oct. 25. "Cityscapes Revealed: Highlights From the Collection," "Investigating Where We Live," "Washington, Symbol and City," ongoing. 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448, nbm.org.

National Gallery of Art, East Building: "Pompeii and the Roman Villa: Art and Culture Around the Bay of Naples," through March 22. "Small French Paintings," permanent exhibit. 4th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-737-4215, nga.gov.

National Gallery of Art, West Building: "Pride of Place: Dutch Cityscapes of the Golden Age," the only U.S. venue to host this showcase of paintings, books and atlases highlighting the legendary 17th century Dutch genre of the cityscape, opens Sat., through May 3. "Oceans,

Rivers and Skies: Ansel Adams, Robert Adams and Alfred Stieglitz," 21 works by the landscape photographers presented in chronological order, through March 15. "Looking In: Robert Frank's 'The Americans,'" through April 26. "Reading the Modern Photobook: Changing Perceptions," through April 26. Permanent exhibit, a collection of European and American paintings, sculpture and decorative arts from the 13th through the 19th centuries and an outdoor sculpture garden, 6th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-737-4215, nga.gov.

National Geographic: "Birds of North America," stop and stare at more than 90 illustrations from the National Geographic's archives, through May 31. 1145 17th St. NW; 202-857-7588, nationalgeographic.com/museum.

National Museum of American His- *Continued on E18*

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showtimes

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BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6PM

MILK (R)
11:10, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
THE READER (R)
1:00, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35
GRAN TORINO (R)
1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00
THE WRESTLER (R)
1:35, 4:10, 7:20, 10:15
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
WALTZ WITH BASHIR (R)
2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:00
DOUBT (PG-13)
1:05PM
FROST/NIXON (R)
3:30, 6:30

10:10, 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)
9:45, 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 9:45
THE READER (R)
9:50, 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:10
DOUBT (PG-13)
10:00, 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
FROST/NIXON (R)
9:40, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05

VIRGINIA

CINEMA ARTS THEATRE

9650 Main St., Fairfax 703-978-6991
www.cinemaartsatre.com

THE WRESTLER (R)

9:55, 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 8:00, 10:15
DEFIANCE (R)10:10, 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)9:45, 12:20, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 9:45
THE READER (R)9:50, 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:10
DOUBT (PG-13)10:00, 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
FROST/NIXON (R)

9:40, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05

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NO PASSES/NO DISCOUNT CARDS

GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL

2009 Film Neu Festival

for information visit:

www.goethe.de/washington

DOUBT (PG-13)

1:40, 4:10
THE WRESTLER (R)1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:05
MILK (R)1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:50
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R)12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
CHE (R)(I) 1:00, 7:00
WALTZ WITH BASHIR (R)12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10
THE READER (R)

1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

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WeekendPass

Entertainment

The Scene

Continued from E17

Story: The newly light-filled space contains an array of ongoing exhibitions, including "The Star-Spangled Banner: The Flag That Inspired the National Anthem," "The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden," "Bon Appetit! Julia Child's Kitchen at the Smithsonian," the Declaration of Independence and many more, 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, americanhistory.si.edu.

National Museum of Crime & Punishment: Permanent exhibit, various displays on the history of crime, crime-fighting and punishment in the United States, 575 7th St. NW; 202-393-1099.

National Museum of Health and Medicine: Permanent exhibits, displays about medicine, including the world's largest and most representative collection of micro-

Continued on E20

FILM | A SEPARATE PEACE



COURTESY OF JANUS FILMS

ONE PASSION, TWO COUNTRIES: Showing at Landmark's E Street Cinema, the Film/Neu Festival celebrates German-language cinema. German-themed receptions—including a closing Berlin party—but, ultimately, an ocean can't separate the fact that Americans and Germans share the same issues and joys.

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NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D
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OC: PAUL BLART - MALL COP (PG)
PAUL BLART - MALL COP (PG)
MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D (R) - ID REQ'D ★
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG)
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D
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SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) - ID REQ'D
INKHEART (PG)
NOTORIOUS (R) - ID REQ'D
PAUL BLART MALL COP (PG)
OC: PAUL BLART - MALL COP (PG)
PAUL BLART - MALL COP (PG)
MY BLOODY VALENTINE (R) - ID REQ'D
HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG)
GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D
THE UNBORN (PG-13)
BRIDE WARS (PG)
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13)
DOUBT (PG-13)

6505 America Blvd, Hyattsville, MD 301-864-3456

Adv. *Tix on Sale* THE PINK PANTHER 2

UNDERWORLD 3 (R) - ID REQ'D
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GRAN TORINO (R) - ID REQ'D
THE UNBORN (PG-13)
BRIDE WARS (PG)
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13)
DOUBT



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AMC HOFFMAN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

IMAX THE DARK KNIGHT: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG13)
4:00, 7:25

DIGITAL 3D

MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D (R) 1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30

INKHEART (PG) 1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50
UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) ✓ 1:10, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:35, 7:50, 9:15, 10:15

HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55

NOTORIOUS (R) 1:25, 2:30, 3:45, 5:30, 7:40, 9:30

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 2:40, 5:05, 7:35, 10:00

BRIDE WARS (PG) 2:15, 3:30, 7:15, 9:45

NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG13) 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:40

THE UNBORN (PG13) 2:05, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10

BEDTIME STORIES (PG) 1:00, 3:30, 6:20

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 2:50, 6:30, 10:10

MARLEY & ME (PG) 1:50, 4:50, 7:35

VALKYRIE (PG13) 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25

SEVEN POUNDS (PG13) 9:00 PM

AMC SELECT

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:30, 4:40, 7:45, 10:30

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:00, 3:45, 6:40, 9:35

THE WRESTLER (R) 1:05, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00

DEFIANCE (R) 1:45, 4:55, 8:10

LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG13) 1:40, 4:15, 6:55, 9:25

GRAN TORINO (R) 1:35, 4:25, 7:10, 10:05

THE READER (R) 10:20 PM

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14

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1 (888) AMC-4FUN

IMAX THE DARK KNIGHT: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG13)
3:40, 7:00, 10:20

DIGITAL 3D

MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D (R) 12:30, 3:05, 5:35, 8:10, 10:35

INKHEART (PG) ✓ 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50

UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) ✓ 2:15, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) 1:50, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30

NOTORIOUS (R) 1:25, 3:15, 6:15, 9:15

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15

BRIDE WARS (PG) 12:40, 2:55, 5:25, 7:50, 10:05

NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG13) 7:10, 9:35

THE UNBORN (PG13) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:30

BEDTIME STORIES (PG) 2:00, 4:40

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 1:05, 5:05, 9:00

MARLEY & ME (PG) 1:30, 4:35, 7:20

VALKYRIE (PG13) 10:10 PM

AMC SELECT

DEFIANCE (R) ✓ 1:20, 4:25, 7:35, 10:40

GRAN TORINO (R) 1:40, 4:50, 7:40, 10:45

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14

3111 K Street, N.W.

202-342-6441

DIGITAL 3D

MY BLOODY VALENTINE 3D (R) 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20

INKHEART (PG) ✓ 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15

UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS (R) ✓ 2:15, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) 2:55, 5:20

BRIDE WARS (PG) 1:00, 3:25, 5:45, 8:10, 10:25

BRIDE WARS (PG) ✓ 1:00, 3:25, 5:45, 8:10, 10:25

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG13) 6:40

VALKYRIE (PG13) 3:40, 10:15

AMC SELECT

FROST/NIXON (R) 1:05, 4:00, 6:50, 9:45

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 2:05, 4:35, 7:50, 10:25

THE WRESTLER (R) 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:30

DEFIANCE (R) 1:10, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20

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GRAN TORINO (R) 2:20, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30

THE READER (R) 4:25, 10:00

DOUBT (PG13) 1:45

AMC SELECT

FROST/NIXON (R) 2:40, 5:30, 8:15

CC - Closed Captioning · DVS - Descriptive Video Service

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703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D

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MARLEY & ME (PG) 1:00, 3:35, 6:40, 9:25

VALKYRIE (PG13) 4:15, 10:30

AMC SELECT

FROST/NIXON (R) 4:05, 9:55

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LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG13) 2:15, 4:25, 7:05, 9:55

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REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45

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AMC SELECT

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REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45

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THE READER (R) 2:25, 5:20, 8:00, 10:45

AMC SELECT

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REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55

The Dog Next Door

With the new Next Door, Ben's Chili Bowl makes it a double

BIGGER, BETTER | The Ali family has been busy lately.

Fifty years ago, Ben and Virginia Ali opened Ben's Chili Bowl. Since then, the eatery has achieved landmark status. It has played host to the likes of Duke Ellington, Miles Davis and Nat King Cole; it withstood the riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and earlier this month, then President-elect Barack Obama enjoyed his first meal as a Washingtonian seated at one of the famous Formica tables.

Now run by Ben and Virginia's sons, Kamal and Nizam, the U Street hot spot has broken ground on a new venture next door. Next Door is, like all change sweeping through the District this year, historic, with one eye referencing the past and the other on the future.

"This is extremely exciting for us," said Nizam on the eve of Next Door's opening. "We were waiting for the right moment to expand in this way. As luck would have it, the



COURTESY NIZAM ALI

TWICE THE COZY: D.C. native and well-liked winner of Fox TV's "Hell's Kitchen" Rahman Harper takes over in the kitchen.

place next door was abandoned for five years. When we were eventually able to purchase it, the first thought in our minds was, 'Now what do we do?'

In terms of its space, Next Door is a virtual twin of its famous big brother; the Alis were hesitant to alter the family brand.

"Of course, we thought, we want to maintain a presence for the next

50 years. But we also wanted to be fresh."

Something that has always paired well with the chili bowl experience is, to no one's surprise, alcohol. "People love to visit us after a night of fun," Ali said. "We didn't have a liquor license, so we were toying with allowing people to bring in wine or whatever. But we also knew that because Ben's is such an insti-

tution, we couldn't keep the same flavor, pay it tribute, but change the atmosphere with alcohol."

"Next Door complements Ben's. It's a different menu and there's more freedom for us now to try new things without compromising our past."

The difference is evident immediately. First, there's table service.

Many of the famous items on the

original menu are available, too, although much ballyhoo has been made about the resident chef de cuisine, Rahman "Rock" Harper.

"We couldn't believe we got Chef Rock. He was the winner of that show 'Hell's Kitchen,' and is a real star. The thing is, though, he's a local guy. He went to T.C. Williams high school, and his return to Washington is part of our tone here. Next Door is an extension of Ben's and he's an extension of this city."

Besides half-smokes and nachos, Harper's dishes run the gustatory gamut, from scallops to turkey and mascarpone-filled raviolis. "It's comfort food, too. But really good comfort food," said Ali.

In addition to the cholesterol-heavy menu, Next Door is one of only nine establishments to offer Heineken Extra Cold on tap, which pours the beer at its optimum temperature. There are flat screens along the walls, too, giving Washingtonians another prime spot for watching the 'Skins games.

"That's the thing: This place has its own identity for sure. But even with a wonderful chef and an exciting new offering for our customers, there are no egos here," said Ali. "We share a wall with Ben's. We never forget that. This is a family, ours and Washington's; it always will be."

CHRISTOPHER CORREA

→ 1211 U St. NW; 202-667-8880, benschilibowl.com. (U St.-Cardozo)

Eating Around

THE WORLD'S YOUR ... YOU KNOW Bivalves 101

On Feb. 7, get a crash course in the many kinds of oysters one can find at restaurants on the contiguous 48. BlackSalt is providing educational pairings of tastings of the slippery little suckers harvested locally in Virginia, as well as selections from up and down the Atlantic Coast and the Pacific Northwest.

Classes include a three-station oyster tasting and lessons on how to prepare them. In addition, a specially chosen drink tasting accompanies each station, and there's a faculty of oyster profes-



HELEN HAUSMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

TEMPTATIONS: Red Velvet offers a variety of cupcakes, from coffee- or peanut butter-enhanced to the namesake classic.

sionals who will discuss the myriad mysteries of mollusks. For \$45, this is one school with a guaranteed — and immediate — payoff.

CHRISTOPHER CORREA
→ 4883 MacArthur Blvd. NW; 202-342-9101, blacksaltrestaurant.com.

MMM ... CHOCOLATE The Velveteers

Canada Gordon has always had a crush on cupcakes, and Ceiba's original pastry chef, David Guas,

shares a similar affinity for the dainty desserts. They've opened Red Velvet, a lovely little place to spend a date and grab a sugar high. Try the Morning Call, a chocolate espresso cake with mocha butter cream. Devil's food-chocolate buttermilk cake with bittersweet chocolate ganache is sinfully satisfying; the Peanut Butter Cup, a chocolate chocolate-chip cake dolloped with salted peanut butter frosting is a textural marvel of sweet and salty.

And the Southern Belle is the, well, belle of the ball: A red velvet cake with whipped cream cheese frosting; it's simple, elegant and too scrumptious for words. (cc)

→ 675 E St. NW; 202-347-7895.

WHAT IS THIS 'SPORTS' THING? Super (Bowl) Eating

If your party happens to not center on QB'ing in the kitchen, here are some ideas for eating well for the big game. HomeMade Pizza Company's

pies use all-natural ingredients and high-quality produce. (Oprah featured it on her show!) HomeMade partners with local cooperatives and specialty purveyors to purchase its high-quality produce, meats and cheeses. Try the whole roster: wild mushroom with fontina and fresh thyme; Savory Pie is inspired by the flavors of Provence (chevre and kalamatas); the Mesian is a margherita with style; and for sports fans, the BBQ Chicken is a succulent flatbread topped with grilled chicken tossed in barbecue sauce, paired with red onion and garnished with fresh cilantro. Score. Entrees range from \$5.95 to \$17.95. (cc)

→ 4857 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-966-1600.

➤ WHAT'S EATING YOU?

Please send press releases, photos and food to dining@readexpress.com.

THE KENNEDY CENTER
Millennium Stage

JANUARY 29-FEBRUARY 11

29 THU ★ Delta Moon

Slide guitar skills, well-written songs, and whiskey-soaked vocals deliver Atlanta blues.

30 FRI ★ Run of the Mill String Band

Old-time, Appalachian string band music.

THE CATHERINE B. REYNOLDS FOUNDATION SERIES FOR ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

BROADWAY TODAY & TOMORROW

Part of the Kennedy Center's season-long initiative *Broadway: The Third Generation*, which celebrates today's Broadway composers.

1 SUN ★ Alan Zachary and Michael Weiner

The lyricist and composer present works from Broadway musical *Secondhand Lions* with vocalist Megan Hiltz.

8 SUN ★ Beáta Palya

Hungarian singer mixes Hungarian folk with Gypsy music, jazz, and pop.

9 MON ★ Christylez Bacon

D.C. hip hop artist known for diverse instrumentation and musical combinations. Presented in cooperation with the National Museum for African American History and Culture.

10 TUE ★ Lena Seikaly

Up-and-coming jazz vocalist reminiscent of Sarah Vaughan and Betty Carter.

11 WED ★ University of Maryland String Ensemble

This group led by Daniel Sender plays Haydn quartets.

ALL PERFORMERS AND PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

2 MON ★ Michael Kooman and Christopher Dimond

The composer/pianist and lyricist play music from *Dani Girl* with vocalists Anderson Davis & Natalie Weiss.

3 TUE ★ Benj Pasek and Justin Paul

The upcoming stars present work in collaboration with vocalist Leslie Kritzer.

4 WED ★ Scott Burkell and Paul Loesel

The lyricist and composer premiere new work with vocalist Stephanie J. Block.

5 THU ★ Adam Gwon

The composer/lyricist presents work with vocalists Stanley Bahorek and Leah Horowitz.

6 FRI ★ Joshua Salzman and Ryan Cunningham

The composer and lyricist perform work from *I Love You Because* with vocalists Colin Hanlon and Sarah Alvin.

7 SAT ★ Marcy Heisler and Zina Goldrich

The lyricist and composer present work accompanied by vocalist Scott Coulter.

12th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

31 SATURDAY ★ BROADWAY TODAY

Stephen Schwartz and Tony-winning actor Brian Stokes Mitchell co-host a musical evening to celebrate Millennium Stage's 12th birthday.

On Sat., Jan. 31, 2009, ticket distribution—one (1) ticket per person in line—will begin at 4 p.m. in front of the Opera House. Lines typically form early in the day. Ticket line will start outdoors at entrance to Hall of Nations. Doors open at 10 a.m.

Part of *Broadway: The Third Generation*

STEPHEN SCHWARTZ



BRIAN STOKES MITCHELL

HALF-PRICE FOOD & DRINKS

5-6 P.M. NIGHTLY ★ GRAND FOYER BARS

The Millennium Stage was created and underwritten by James A. Johnson and Maxine Isaacs to make the performing arts accessible to everyone in fulfillment of the Kennedy Center's mission to its community and the nation. The Millennium Stage, underwritten by James A. Johnson and Maxine Isaacs, is brought to the public by Target Stores and Fannie Mae, with additional funding provided by the U.S. Department of Education, The Meredith Foundation, Dr. Deborah Rose and Dr. Jan A.J. Stolwijk, Temple-Inland, Inc., DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, the Millennium Stage Endowment Fund, and the Kennedy Center Washington Committee on the Arts.

Live Internet broadcast, video archive, artist information, and more at kennedy-center.org/millennium

For more information call: (202) 467-4600 (202) 416-8524 TTY

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GET CONNECTED! Become a fan of Millennium Stage on Facebook and check out artist photos, upcoming events, and more!

PLEASE NOTE: There is no free parking for free performances.

The Kennedy Center welcomes persons with disabilities.

The Kennedy Center

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WeekendPass



Man and Land in Temporary Truce

→ **UNLESS WE'RE WALKING** in the woods, most of us don't too often contemplate how we deal with nature. Landscape photographer Frank Gohlke's "Accommodating Nature" at the American Art Museum explores this interaction with the outdoors, specifically the ways in which we try to control our surroundings for our own benefit. (We guess tree-hugging doesn't sound so silly if you consider the prospect that the trees might be out to get you.) On Thursday, Gohlke visits SAAM to read from his catalog essay, "Stories in the Dirt, Stories in the Air," after which, Curator of Photography Toby Jurovics moderates a discussion.

→ *Smithsonian American Art Museum, 8th & F streets NW; discussion Thu., 7 p.m., free; 202-633-1000, americanart.si.edu. (Gallery Place-Chinatown/Metro Center)* ERIC ANDERSON

TheScene

Continued from E20

Affection and Regard: Photographic Jewelry and Its Makers," through June 21.

"Presidents in Waiting," through Jan. 3.

2010. 8th & F streets NW; 202-633-1000, npg.si.edu.

Newseum: A popular museum of news tracing the history of journalism, with interactive exhibitions in 14 galleries, 15 theaters and two broadcast studios. 555 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 888-639-7386, newseum.org.

Project 4 Gallery: "Why on Earth?" exhibition of paintings and drawings featuring historical imagery and stories recontextualized into macabre creations by Anthony Pontius. 1353 U St. NW; 202-232-4340, project4gallery.com.

Renwick Gallery: American crafts and decorative arts, ongoing. 17th Street & Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-633-1000, americanart.si.edu/renwick/index.cfm.

S. Dillon Ripley Center: "Road to Freedom," photographs of the civil rights movement, through March 9. 1100 Jefferson Drive SW; 202-633-1000, si.edu/ripley.

Smithsonian American Art Museum: "Accommodating Nature: The Photographs of Frank Gohlke," photographs document how people interact with and change their environments, through March 3. "Graphic Masters I: Highlights from the Smithsonian American Art Museum," works from the museum's collection, through May 25. "The Scurlock Studio and Black Washington: Picturing the Promise," a family of photographers documentation of black D.C., opening Fri., through Nov. 15. 8th & F streets NW; 202-

The Scene

633-1000, americanart.si.edu.

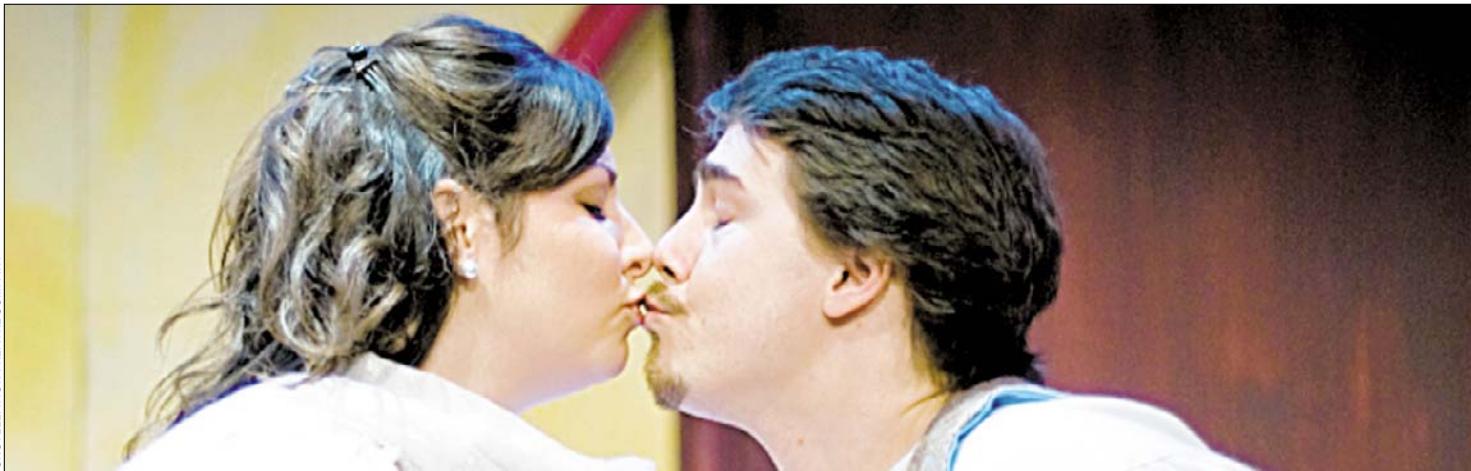
Target Gallery: "Bookends: the Book as Art," juried exhibition of 56 pieces celebrating the physical beauty of books, through Feb. 22. 105 N. Union St., Alexandria, 703-838-4565, torpedofactory.org.

Textile Museum: "Timbuktu to Tibet: Rugs and Textiles of the Hajji Babas" explores rugs and textiles in diverse cultures, through March 8. 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441, textilemuseum.org.

Touchstone Gallery: "My Space on 7th," 88 artists selected 125 spaces for 300(ish) art works, through Feb. 7. 406 7th St. NW; 202-347-2787, touchstone

Continued on E24

STAGE | FIGARO COMES TO THE STAGE



NOT OPERA: Constellation Theatre Company presents a sly and seductive staging of Beaumarchais' comedy "The Marriage of Figaro" at Source Theatre. Later turned into a (more famous) opera by Mozart, the clever valet of the title pulls strings—and subverts feudal authority—in an Spanish castle full of eccentrics.

MY MOTHER'S ITALIAN, MY FATHER'S JEWISH AND I'M STILL IN THERAPY

NOW PLAYING!
Through February 7

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NEW show
BEFORE it goes
to Broadway!



IT'S LIKE MOZART MEETS MONTY PYTHON

pluck
THE TITANIC SHOW

FEBRUARY 12–MARCH 1



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301-657-7827

www.bethesdatheatre.com

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Now open! 300 Shady Grove strikes a balance between upscale ambience and casual fun. Relax on our stylish furniture between rounds of Xtreme® bowling. Enjoy our Club 300 private lanes with full-service bar and supersized video screens. Open late on the weekends, to give you plenty of time to shake, stir and strike. Located at Exit 8 off I-270, next to the Shady Grove Plaza. Call 301.948.1390 or visit us online at 300shadygrove.com.



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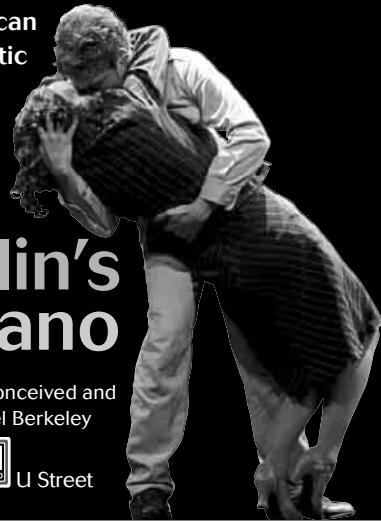
"A NATIONAL TREASURE!"

-The Boston Globe

"Rousing and Toe-Tapping!"

-Variety

A musical journey of American history through the optimistic eyes of Irving Berlin.



irving berlin's i love a piano

music and lyrics by Irving Berlin / conceived and written by Ray Roderick and Michael Berkeley

Jan 29 – Feb 15 at
the Lincoln Theatre



U Street

Target Family Fun Pack – 4 tickets, drinks, TARGET snacks and a special surprise for only \$100. Restrictions apply.



molly smith
artistic director

Tickets starting at \$25!

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Arena Stage Where American Theater Lives

E24 | EXPRESS | 01.29.2009 | THURSDAY

WeekendPass | Entertainment

TheScene

Continued from E23

gallery.com.

U.S. Botanic Garden: Permanent exhibitions of more than 4,000 plants and a tropical rain forest. 100 Maryland Ave. SW; 202-225-8333, usbg.org.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum: "A Dangerous Lie: Protocols of the Elders of Zion," "Genocide Emergency: Darfur, Sudan," "Witness to History: Documenting the Path of American Liberators," other exhibitions of artifacts, photographs and oral histories. 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place (15th Street) SW; 202-488-0400, ushmm.org.

Washington Printmakers Gallery:

"Alpine Views," snow-swept prints from Deron DeCesare, opens Sun., through Feb. 22, 1732 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-332-7757, washingtonprintmakers.com.

Zenith Gallery: "Inaugural Inspiration,"

arts and crafts celebrating the historic presidency of Barack Obama, through Feb. 8. 413 7th St. NW; 202-783-2963, zenithgallery.com.

DANCE | SKATEBOARDS AND STRINGS



RAY GNIWEK

HANG WITH IT: Innovation is the name of the game, as the Jane Franklin Dance Company unveils "Breaking Ground" and "Indistinct Boundaries" at the Navy Memorial Heritage Center Saturday. The performance features dancers interacting with the flow of skateboarders and a live string quartet.

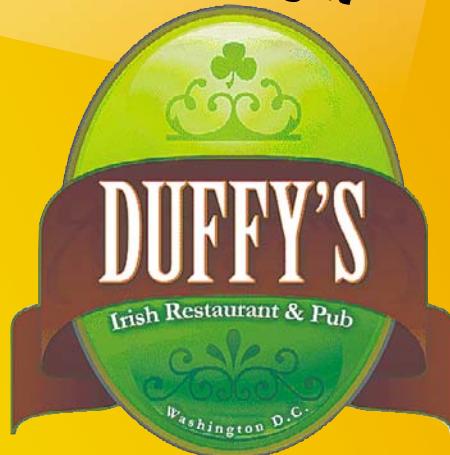
Happy hour

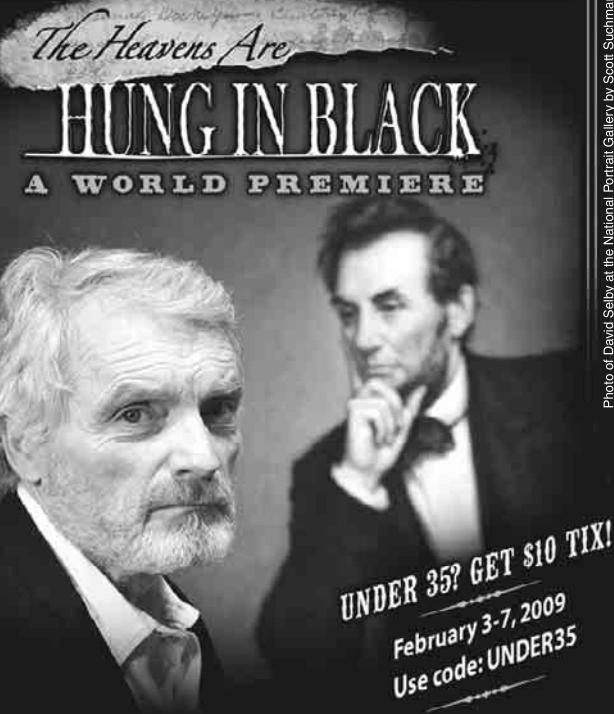
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David Selby as Abraham Lincoln.

February 3 - March 8, 2009

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Written by James Still; Directed by Stephen Rayne

This production made possible by BAE Systems, Verizon, BP America, Visa Inc., National Endowment for the Arts and D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities. Chevron, a 2008-2009 Season Sponsor. Ford's Theatre stages Built by The Home Depot.

Photo of David Selby at the National Portrait Gallery by Scott Suchman.

TheScene

Continued from E25

ton: 800-494-8497, washingtonshakepeare.org.

SATURDAY ONLY Choreographers

Showcase: Six outstanding regional choreographers have their works produced and presented, and discuss those works immediately afterward, Sat., 3 & 8 p.m., \$30, Clarice Smith Center, University of Maryland, College Park, 301-405-2787, claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Diane Macklin

Children's Storyteller: Diane Macklin: Children's storyteller brings stories, songs and chants fitted especially for preschoolers, Thu. 10:15 a.m., Fri.-Sat., 10:15 & 11:30 a.m., \$7. [Imagination Stage](http://imaginationstage.org), 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; 301-280-1660, imaginationstage.org.

Funeral Potatoes: The balance between piety and sexuality gets explored through one woman's struggle in the middle of a Mormon funeral, through Feb. 14, Mead Theatre Lab at Flashpoint, 916 G St. NW; 202-315-1305, flashpointdc.org.

I Love a Piano: Seven decades of Irving

STORYTIME | UNPLUG THE TELEVISION



COURTESY PUSH CART

SHARE IT: The educational performing company Push Cart Players brings children a dramatic take on folktales from around the world. The program, "Stone Soup and Other Stories," aims to promote literacy among youngsters ages 4-8 as well as promises enjoyment for everyone ages 4 to 94.



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2/11, Wed, 7:30pm; 2/12, Thu, 7:30pm
2/13, Fri, 7:30pm; 2/14, Sat, 1:30pm
2/14, Sat, 7:30pm; 2/15, Sun, 1:30pm

*Preview Performance, by invitation only. Limited tickets available through www.WebTicketCenter.com/dc

Ticket Price: \$38 - \$108

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Box Office or
Charge by phone (202) 467-4600

Online: www.kennedy-center.org

(2) From NTDV DC (Presenter)

Hotline: (202) 449-9480
Online: www.WebTicketCenter.com/dc

www.DCSpectacular.com

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Entertainment | WeekendPass

GLAM | IT'S ALL ABOUT THE EYELINER



COURTESY BIG HASSLE

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ABOUT TO PREEN: The prime of glam rock was once a proud and noble thing ... well, no, it was a sassy, shiny, decadent thing, but it could rock. Relive those feather-boa days at the Hell on Heels tour, coming to the Red and the Black on Friday. The featured bands include Semi Precious Weapon, Von Iva and Nico Vega, above.

The Scene

Berlin's songs and American history come to the stage in an energetic dance performance, opening Thu., through Feb. 15. \$25-\$74. Arena Stage, 1101 6th St. SW; 202-554-9066, arenastage.org.

SATURDAY ONLY Jane Franklin

Dance: "Breaking Ground" & "Indistinct Boundaries," explore the skateboarding experience and the lines between the virtual and the real, Sat. 8 p.m., \$10-\$25. Burke Theatre, 701 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 703-933-1111, janefranklin.com.

SATURDAY ONLY Karen Reedy

Dance: The Jungian conception of dreams and sleep is explored by Karen Reedy Dance, Sat., 8 p.m.; \$8-\$22. Dance Place, 3225 8th St. NE; 202-269-1600, danceplace.org.

SATURDAY ONLY Langston Days

Performance of Langston Hughes and Charles Mingus' work "The Weary Blues," by Holly Bass and a six-piece jazz band, Sat., 7 p.m.; \$12-\$15. Busboys & Poets, 2021 14th St. NW; 202-387-7638, busboysandpoets.com.

The Little Dog Laughed: Holly Twyford stars in the story of an agent steering her client through Hollywood's shark tank,

through March 8, \$44-\$71. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-820-9771, signature-theatre.org.

Les Misérables: The crowd-pleasing musical in a spare production by Eric Schaeffer, through Feb. 22, \$65-\$87. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-820-9771, signature-theatre.org.

The Marriage of Figaro: The Constellation Theatre Company presents Beaumarchais' classic farce, through Feb. 22, Source, 1835 14th St. NW; 202-315-1305.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY Mozart

Dances: Three of Mozart's pieces are put to the stage by the Mark Morris Dance Group, Thu.-Sat., 8 p.m., \$34-\$65, Kennedy Center Performing Arts Center, 2700 F St. NW; 800-444-1324, kennedy-center.org.

My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish and I'm Still in Therapy:

Steve Solomon returns with the follow-up to his original comedic one-man show, through Feb. 7. Bethesda Theatre, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda; 301-657-7827, bethesdatheatre.com.

The Prince and the Troubadour: Rescue the troubadour in this musical for all ages, Feb. 8, \$15. Theatre on the Run, 3700 South Four Mile Run Drive; 202-333-7009, chartertheatre.org.

Proof: The burden of inheritance is

explored in this award-winning mathematical drama, through Feb. 1. Rockville Little Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville; 240-314-8690, rlt-online.org.

The Seafarer: Four Irish men play a game of poker with the devil in this Irish comedy by Conor McPherson, through Feb. 22. Studio Theatre, 1501 14th St. NW; 202-332-3300, studiotheatre.org.

SATURDAY ONLY: Suzanne Westenhoefer: The out lesbian comedian does the stand-up routine, Sat., 7:30 p.m., \$45, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, 703-549-7500, birchmere.com.

LAST CHANCE Winter Carnival of

New Works: Madcap Players stage a series of short, new plays from local artists, through Sun. \$15, H St. Playhouse, 1365 H St. NE; 800-494-8497, madcap-players.com.

The Winter's Tale: Hope and rebirth triumph over a husband's violent jealousy in Shakespeare's classic tale, through March 8, \$25-\$55, Folger Shakespeare Theatre, 201 East Capitol Street, SE; 202-544-7077, folger.edu.

Zomo the Rabbit: A Hip-Hop Creation

Myth: A rapping rabbit stars in this contemporary take on an African fable for kids, through March 8, \$10-\$21, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; 301-280-1660, imaginationstage.org.

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Photo of Michelle Hurd by Scott Suchman.

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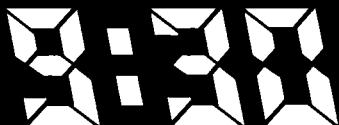
Photo of Jay Torrence as Quasimodo by Sean Williams.

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George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic
w/ Sam H F 27

Dan Auerbach (of The Black Keys)
w/ Hacienda & Those Dartlins Sa 28

MARCH

Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit w/ Deer Tick Su 1

Missy Higgins & Justin Nozuka M 2

LUCINDA WILLIAMS w/ Buick 6 Tu 3

Tindersticks Th 5

Ani DiFranco F 6

Lisa Hannigan w/ The Low Anthem Su 8

Bell X1 Th 12

MN8 PRESENTS
Kinky F 13

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THE POGUES W 18

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